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Q5

Technology cannot replace manpower.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2015 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** machines multiply; they do not sit with a patient at 2 a.m. in a PHC that has no staff
- **One stand:** technology cannot replace manpower where care, judgment, and a last-mile body are the work. It can replace drudgery
- Move through care, farm/factory, state, counter of automation. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a complement, not a museum of labour

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a kiosk and a cancelled train. Stand:** replace drudgery; keep care and judgment.
- **Headings:** care, farm/factory, state, counter.

Peg a PHC and a tractor. Close on complement.

Note

This is a map, not the full 1,000-1,200 word essay.

Anecdote

A kiosk prints a ticket. The platform still needs a person when the train is cancelled and a crowd panics. Technology took a queue. It did not take the night. The topic is that remainder: manpower that is not a romantic Luddite.

One stand

- **Cannot replace:** care, a teaching, a policing that is not only a camera, a repair. Can replace: a repetitive calculation, a dangerous lift. Write a nurse and a robot.

Heading map**What the line is asking**

- **Technology:** a tool, an AI cousin, a tractor.
- **Cannot replace manpower:** a claim about kinds of work.
- **Manpower:** skilled persons, not a headcount fetish.

Care / school

- A midwife. A teacher who sees a child.

Farm / factory

- A tractor without a mechanic is dead iron. Labour that was drudgery can go.

State

- E-office and a clerk who still must decide a hardship.

The counter

Some manpower should be replaced (a child in a mine, a human doing a 40-degree rooftop weld if a machine can). The line is not a jobs-at-any-cruelty. It is a reminder that a civilisation is still made of persons who can be answerable.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** automate the grind; keep the person who can be blamed and thanked. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures

Gandhi

Production by the masses - a person still at the centre.

Schumacher

Tools people can mend - manpower as a repairer.

NRHM / nursing

Care as the unreplaceable.

Industry 4.0 / PLFS

Automation as a cousin - peg once.

Art. 41 / 43

Work and a living wage - persons, not only robots.

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