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Q4

Innovation is the key determinant of economic growth and social welfare.

UPSC Civil Services Mains 2016 · Essay · 125 marks · Philosophical and ethical quotes

Philosophical and ethical quotes

Core demand of the question

- **Stake:** growth and welfare now turn on new ways of doing - innovation as a public capacity, not a pitch-deck
- **One stand:** innovation is key when it is absorbed by a firm, a farm, a PHC - not when it is a summit
- Move through firm, farm, state, inclusion. Keep one honest counter
- Close on a boring improvement that scaled

Revision summary

Not a full essay - a map.

- **Open with a paper PHC and an app. Stand:** innovation as absorbed capacity.
- **Headings:** firm/farm, state, inclusion, counter.

Peg UPI or a vaccine. Close on scale, not a summit.

Note

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

Anecdote

A PHC still sends a paper file. A start-up in the same city sells a health app to people who have a phone and a card. Innovation is happening. Welfare is the question of who it reaches. The topic makes innovation the key - write the lock it must fit.

One stand

- **Key determinant:** not the only one (capital, a school, a peace). Growth: productivity. Social welfare: a public that works. Write frugal, a public lab, a last-mile.

Heading map

What the line is asking

- **Innovation:** process, a product, an institution.
- **Economic growth:** TFP, a firm that learns.
- **Social welfare:** health, a school, a dignity - not only GDP.

Firm / farm

- A machine, a seed, a UPI as a cousin of innovation.

State

- A vaccine platform, an Aadhaar that can include or exclude.
- **Public R&D:** CSIR, a university that is not only a rank.

Inclusion

- A language, a repair, a price.

The counter

Innovation without a demand (a poor who cannot buy) is a toy. Labour displaced without a floor is a welfare crime. And 'innovation' can be a rent-seeking patent thicket. The key turns only in a lock called absorption.

Last paragraph

- **Close:** one scaled boring fix. Expand - this is only the map.

Facts & figures**Schumpeter**

One nod: new combinations - then a PHC.

UPI / DPI

Public rails as innovation.

CSIR / patent

A lab and a thicket - both faces.

NDMA / agri

A seed or a weather SMS as welfare tech.

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Health as the lock innovation must fit.

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