

Precis:-

E.F. Schumacher thinks that the gift of Beneficial Knowledge has more significance over material gifts. Material gifts have transitory charm because they are easily available. But it demands effort on the part of recipient to get knowledge which is everlasting. With the help of knowledge one can become independent and self-supporting. Moreover, instead of giving material help to single man, one can help a lot of people to become independent with the help of knowledge at low cost. So, intellectual aid will contribute to the development of society.

Title:- Intellectual aid: a key to Independence.

word used: 89

Précis 30: CSS 1993

Q.2: Write a précis of the following passage and suggest a suitable title: (20)

The best aid to give is intellectual aid, a gift of useful knowledge. A gift of knowledge is infinitely preferable to a gift of material things. There are many reasons for this. Nothing becomes truly one's own except on the basis of some genuine effort or sacrifice. A gift of material goods can be appropriated by recipient without effort or sacrifice: it therefore rarely becomes his own and is all too frequently and easily treated as a mere windfall. A gift of intellectual goods, a gift of knowledge, is a very different matter. Without a genuine effort of appropriation on the part of the recipient there is no gift. To appropriate the gift and to make it one's own is the same thing, and neither moth nor rust doth corrupt. The gift of material goods makes people dependent, but the gift of knowledge also has far more lasting effects and is far more closely relevant to the concept of "development." Give a man a fish, as the saying goes, and you are helping him little bit for a very short time, teach him the art of fishing, and he can help himself all his life. Further, if you teach him to make his own fishing net. You have helped him to become not only self-supporting, but also self-reliant and independent man and businessman.

This, then should become the ever-increasing preoccupation of the generous supply of the appropriate intellectual gifts, gifts of relevant knowledge on the methods of self-help. This approach, incidentally, has also the advantage of being relatively cheap of making money to a long way. For 100/- you may able to equip one man with certain means of production; but for the same money you may well be able to teach, a hundred men to equip themselves. Perhaps a little pump-priming by way of material goods will in some cases, be helpful to speed the process of development (E.F Schumacher).