

When Ulysses and his men were shipwrecked, they first lit a fire of driftwood and cooked a meal. After they had eaten, they remembered their drowned companions and wept. Homer's account rings true. Our physical needs take priority over our emotional demands, but, once the former have been satisfied, the profounder requirements of our humanity reassert themselves. And what happens on the personal scale can also happen on the world scale. The industrialized nations have now managed, broadly speaking, to provide their citizens with food, shelter and clothing. As a result, those citizens are becoming more aware of other and subtler needs. But a society geared to the production of goods is precisely a society which is poorly adapted to satisfying psychological needs. The very processes by which we manufacture goods so effectively actually reduce psychological satisfactions. Hence, the further we push technological advance, the worse the psychological environment becomes. We have scrambled out of physical poverty only to fall into psychological poverty. Indeed our condition is worse than poverty; we live in a psychological slum.

In short, in the technological growth of any social organism, there is a turnover point at which effort needs to be transferred from material to non-material needs. This point we have now reached, or passed. This is why we have to rethink our entire social technique. How can we satisfy our psychological needs, in a technologically advanced society? That is the central question.

When psychological needs are not met, people can be said to be frustrated. Their efforts to attain some kind of psychological satisfaction are in vain. (The word frustration comes from the Latin *frustra*, in vain.) Now, as the American psychologists Dollard and Miller showed a quarter of a century ago, frustration leads to aggression. When we cannot repair our car, we feel like giving it a kick. (There is more to be said about the origins of aggression, of course, and I shall say it later on: this is just a preliminary sketch.) In short, it is the existence of widespread frustration which is the prime cause of the mounting toll of violence which the world is now witnessing. So, if that frustration can be shown to be caused by industrial society and

the conditions it imposes, then the violence must be regarded as a cost of production. Frustration and violence are the price of material affluence. (397 words)

Suitable Title:

Technological advancement leads to psychological poverty

PRECIS:-

Humans prioritise material demands over emotional demands. Once their stomach is full, they think of emotions. The same behaviour reciprocates at global level. Developed and industrialized nations have fulfilled their material needs, therefore, they are now focused on emotional and psychological needs. However, the societies which only think of material development end in emotional catastrophes. Material development comes at the cost of emotional underdevelopment. Now when the world has achieved technological advancement, the main question is that how to achieve psychological advancement in this technologically advanced world. Moreover, psychological unsatisfaction can lead towards extreme behaviours. These extreme behaviours at personal level culminates into violence at global level. Hence, the developed nations should admit that extremism at global level is the result of material development.

TOTAL WORDS = 397

PRECIS WORDS = 125