

CLASS—XII
ENGLISH ASSIGNMENT-9
(Note Making)

Read the passages given below and make notes on them.

8 marks. (5 → Note making)
3 → Summary

PASSAGE - I

By the start of the decade, everybody suddenly realized that Bangalore was not a sleepy cantonment town any longer and was heading towards becoming a boom city. The four metropolitan cities were overcrowded, polluted and just horrible to live in. Businesses, especially multinational companies, started scouting around for a more congenial place to work in.

That's when Bangalore caught everybody's eye. With friendly people, a temperate climate and a pollution-free environment, it beckoned Indians and foreigners alike. And when Manmohan Singh threw open India to foreign businessmen, they made a beeline for Bangalore. Several MNCs have their corporate office here, for comfort, cost-cutting measures and style.

These are the kind of people who came to Bangalore, alongwith Indians from other states looking for a cleaner environment. But soon the infrastructure fell far short of the needs.

Power and water were stretched to their limits, while sewage, garbage, and pollution increased. Everything that could go wrong, it seems, went wrong. Residents screamed, raved and ranted about the loss of the city beautiful. It was time for the authorities to wake up and do something. And they began to.

The plan was divided into two parts – the urban infrastructure project and the mega city project. And there the Bangalore Metropolitan Region Development Authority was born.

The major thrust of the urban infrastructure project was to ensure the growth of satellite townships like Kengeri, Yeshwantpur and Whitefield. With good roads linking these areas to Bangalore proper, they will take away the congestion that is presently affecting the city. It will also ensure that the city's resources are not depleted too soon due to overuse.

Proposals include a Japanese township on the outskirts of Bangalore. With Jayanagar being Asia's largest planned site, soon other parts of Bangalore will look like it. Also on the anvil is an expressway between Bangalore and Mysore. This is likely to be taken up by a private firm soon. Development of towns like Hassan, Tumkur and Mysore was also mooted to avoid overcrowding of Bangalore.

The mega city project has the city's growth at heart. It aims to develop the city's infrastructure and ensure that the ugly part of the city does not overshadow the ancient beauty. Widening and maintaining roads, slum development, water and environmental concerns rule this plan. Parts of this programme are already in action. To solve the serious space crunch for parking, three multi-storeyed car parks have been planned. One on K.G. Road is already being built. Commercial viability of the venture is ensured

by offering one floor of the building as commercial space. In this way the building pays for itself. The network of flyovers planned all over the city to ease the load on the city's roads was flagged off last month. The completion period for this 2.5 km. flyover is 30 months. It will use imported block-segment technology for the first time in the country.

These flyovers will, to a large extent, make traveling in the city easier, providing fast moving corridors to major parts of the city. More subways have also been planned at congestion points to clear pedestrians from the roads. A major problem faced on Bangalore's streets today is the polluting trucks. Trucks have henceforth been banned on city roads from July 15.

For the future, truck terminals have been planned at various points outside the city. At these points, the goods will be shifted onto smaller tempos or lighter vehicles and then distributed in the city. The ring road project is also

underway. This will ensure that trucks can by pass Bangalore and do not enter the heart of the city. Private investment in all or several of these projects is being seriously considered, offering the cash-strapped government a way, making sure that the projects are completed on time.

With a good network of roads and easy flow of traffic, Bangalore is all set to become one of the best cities of the world.