

Test Code: 31029

80017_31029_1910033825_(2021-05-30 15:29:08)IAS - 2020 - GS29A/29B/20C/20CR/11CA

GSA

ForumIAS

ACADEMY

GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate

Anjali Sharma

Email Id.

Mobile No.

Roll No.

Date:

Time Allowed: Three Hours

Maximum marks: 250

INDEX TABLE**INSTRUCTION**

| Q. No. | Max. Marks | Marks Obtained |
|--------|------------|----------------|
| 1 | | |
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1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.

2. There are TWELVE questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.

3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.

4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.

5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum Answer Booklet must be clearly Struck off.

Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.

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Total Marks:**Remarks:**

Start Time | 2:00

End Time | 5:00

Mode Of Examination :

Online Offline

ECN CODE:

Evaluation Date:

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New Delhi- 110005 | Ph: 011-49878625/ 9821711605 | Email: helpdesk@forumias.academy

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| Parameters | Excellent | Very Good | Good | Average | Poor | Very Poor |
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ADDITIONAL COMMENTS

Section - A

Q.1) a) There is a view that the principal objective of ethics is equitable distribution of resources in a society and behavioural regulation at an individual level. Do you agree?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ethics are the standards of conduct that a society imposes upon itself to guide its values, norms and behaviour of its members. It aims to build a good and moral society.

Principle objective of ethics as

↳ EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION of resources

- An ethical society can be build upon an egalitarian social order, where there is equitable distribution of resources
- Ethics guide the members to notth be greedy and share their good fortune with others so as to maximise their own happiness.
- There needs to be equitable distribution of resources among all sections of society particularly the vulnerable, viz women, children, SC, STs so as everyone is able to reach their full potential.

↳ BEHAVIORAL REGULATION

- Ethics teaches us to be compassionate, empathetic and tolerant of others.
Confucius said - "Treat others as you would want to be treated by others."
- In Aristotelean view - a good society can be build if the members of the society are virtuous and there are some cardinal values
- Categorical Imperative → A law that is based upon conscience and is identified as such by every rational member of the society.

Thus, ethics help in building a good society by equitable distribution of resources and behavioural regulation of its members in the intended direction

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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| Structure | | Content | |
| Question Interpretation | | Total : | |

b) A person's ability to make ethical choices is often restricted because of internal and external pressures. Identify some internal and external pressure that impact ethical decision-making. Have you ever faced such a pressure? Give examples from your life.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ethics are the standards that guide the behaviour of individuals in the society.

However these are not all superimposing but are often restricted because of internal and external pressures that impact the decision making process.

INTERNAL PRESSURES:

1) Self interest over cooperative spirit - This is often seen in activities which require teamwork but have sense of competition inherent. Eg - Sharing your notes with a friend who missed a lecture because of some emergency.

2) Materialistic pleasures which often turns into greed - In order to lead more comfortable lives, people succumb to vices such as dishonesty, falsehood and so on. Eg - Lying to your parents to get a demand fulfilled.

3) Prejudices → depend on our socialisation process

EXTERNAL PRESSURES :

- 1) Peer pressure → In order to enhance our image amongst our peers, people tend to do unethical things. Eg - Smoking cigarette in public.
- 2) Family pressure → to provide them benefits associated with our professional position. Eg - Government servants awarding contracts to their relatives which is an example of Conflict of Interest.
- 3) Societal pressure - to maintain our status and prestige. Eg - Police personnel involved in bribery and corruption to maintain their high standards of living.

These pressures can be resolved if we listen to our inner voice of conscience which often stops us from doing unethical acts.

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Q.2) a) The requirement of a developing country is not a neutral civil service but civil service activism. Do you agree with this statement? Justify your stand with examples.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Civil services are the steel frame of any country that are the basis of its administration and implementing the policies of social welfare.

In a developing country, there are vast number of opportunities and challenges for the objective of social welfare. This requires an efficient and dedicated civil service to meet these paramount objectives.

↳ CIVIL SERVICE ACTIVISM → Civil servants actively doing their job rather than just being the cog in the wheel.

↳ Passion is required to work at odd hours and in difficult circumstances such as mass protests which create huge law and order problems require civil servants to be present at all times, talking and convincing various sections.

NEUTRAL CIVIL SERVICE → means civil servants just being the facilitators and being neutral in their ideologies following their political masters advice almost in a blind manner

↳ Although this ensures that the representatives of people make the decisions and civil servants following orders objectively and in a neutral manner, it could have grave consequences.

Eg - Officials under the Nazi regime in Germany following the orders of Hitler which were grossly unethical, but justified themselves on being neutral

Thus, a little of Civil service activism is required alongwith objectivity and impartiality to propel growth of a developing country like India.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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b) What do you mean by intellectual courage? Why is it an important quality in a civil servant?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)
Intellectual courage means the ability to show fortitude and take decisions and initiatives on our own based on our own intellect rather than getting affected by others' views.

It is a value which requires one to stay original and innovative and not just copying the ideas of others.

A civil servant has to perform diverse roles while performing his duties which often require intellectual courage to find innovative and appropriate solutions as per the context.

Eg - The COVID-19 pandemic was an unprecedented situation and civil servants had to show their intellectual courage by finding solutions to fight the pandemic in their districts.

Significance of intellectual courage

- ↳ Emotional intelligence can be applied with intellectual courage more effectively
- ↳ Accountability is enhanced while making decisions as it was solely the product of the civil servants thought & views
- ↳ Decentralised and localised solutions arise to the fore

Intellectual courage helps one to have flexibility in his perspectives and correct one's judgement in view of better ideas or rational explanations. Eg- Gandhi withdrew Non Cooperation Movement after Chauri-Chaura as he believed masses are not yet ready for non-violent struggle as he previously thought.

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Q.3) a) Differentiate between the following

- i) Emotions and Feelings
- ii) Integrity and probity

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

i) Emotions

→ Affective state of consciousness in which we experience joy, sorrow, fear, hate and the like

→ It often resides inside an individual and is not acted upon

Feelings

→ These are the subjective disposition to an objective state that one is experiencing
Eg - feeling of hunger, thirst, lust and the like

→ It often gets displayed outside and is often acted upon

Emotions and feelings are often used interchangeably in present era in informal sense. Eg when we say that hunger is an emotion.

Moreover, emotions are placed on a higher pedestal and considered purer than feelings which are often mixed and confused.

Integrity

- Integrity is an act of being honest to others as well as to yourself, i.e. being honest even when no one is watching you
- It goes a step forward from honesty

Probity

- Probity is an act of adhering to the highest standard of ethical values and principles
- It goes a step forward from integrity as well

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b) Corruption undermines peoples trust in political and economic institutions, undermines rule of law and depletes national wealth. In light of the statement, explain reasons for widespread corruption in India. How can ethical actions be promoted in administration?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Corruption is an act of using powers of official capacity for personal gains. It is an unethical act and undermines general public trust, rule of law and deteriorate economy of a nation.

Reasons for widespread corruption:

- ↳ Cultural factors - Corruption is accepted as the oil/grease for wheels of the administration
- ↳ Not much abhorrence to the act, in fact it is accepted largely
- ↳ Lack of transparency and accountability in governance - which paves way for corruption
- ↳ Lack of deterrence mechanisms
- ↳ Poor work culture practices - "Chalta hai" attitude

↳ Lack of personal integrity.

Measures to promote ethical actions in administration :

- ↳ Code of Ethics should be formulated and made mandatory
- ↳ Continuous monitoring in training and afterwards through acts such as RTI, Social Audit etc.

Corruption is a rot in the system and not a way of life and needs to be inculcated as such in everyone's minds.

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Q.4) a) "Human challenge trials" being pursued the development of the COVID-19 vaccine, involves grave ethical concerns. Comment.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Human trials come in the ethical grey area and its wide application for COVID-19 vaccination trials pose grave ethical concerns which needs to be deliberated.

The major ethical concerns are :

↳ Right to life and other such human rights are violated - especially if there is not informed consent in some cases

↳ Divide between developed and developing nations - Most of the human trials are conducted in developing countries where healthcare infrastructure is poorer

↳ Not adequate compensation is provided in case of negative complications

↳ Lack of transparency and accountability mechanisms in the process governing trials.

↳ Low involvement of human rights organisations in such trials

↳ Follow up is not done adequately to cover for health expenses years later if complications arise

International collaboration is required to develop an ethical paradigm to govern the process for the welfare of humanity.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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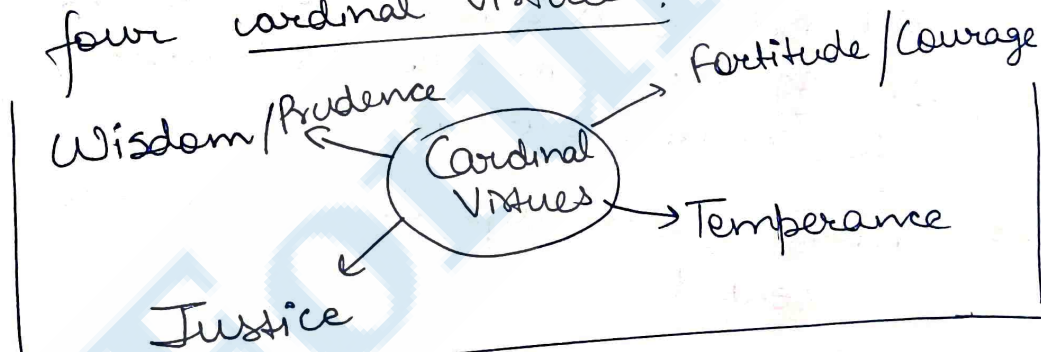
b) What do you mean by virtue ethics? Is a good character sufficient condition for moral actions?

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(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Virtue ethics refer to the branch of ethics propagated by Aristotle which believes that moral society can be founded not by making moral rules but by encouraging people to develop good character.

"Any act is virtuous if it is performed by a virtuous person" claimed Aristotle and there are four cardinal virtues.



Eg- Before performing any action, if one thinks what would a virtuous person have done in this situation and does the same, the act would be virtuous, for instance

thinking about Buddhist philosophy
or Grandhian values -

However, good character is not a sufficient condition, as sometimes virtuous people end up doing immoral actions, as

↳ Yudhisthira, though a virtuous king betted his wife and his brothers in a gamble, a grave immoral act.

↳ All extreme behaviours are not bad
Eg- Agression can be channelised for creative pursuits

↳ Virtues often depend on culture and context

Thus, good character is a necessary but not sufficient condition for moral actions.

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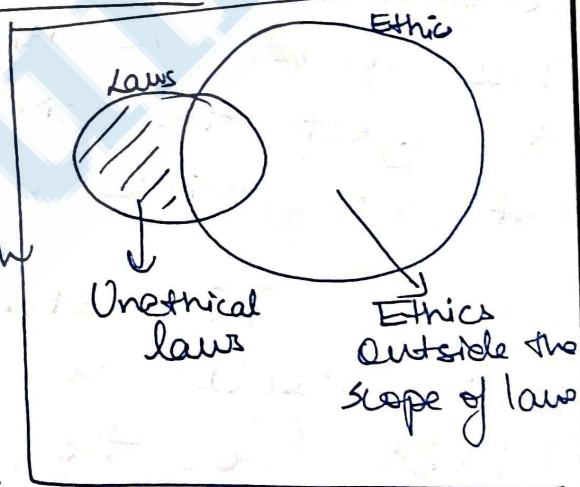
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Q.5) Given are two quotations of moral thinkers/philosophers. For each of these bring out what it means to you in the present context.

- a) In law a man is guilty when he violates the rights of others. In ethics he is guilty if he only thinks of doing so. -Immanuel Kant
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Laws are the codified principles designed and implemented by the government for the functioning of society, whereas ethics are the standards of conduct that a society places upon itself.

Kant argued that ethics have a wider connotation than law as it covers the conscience of the person and places a constant through conscience rather than just actions as done by laws



For example, untouchability is banned in India as per Article 17 and law.

can only go upto that extent, ~~but~~
~~it is~~ law can promote
equality but not fraternity.

Treating the lower castes as
 one's own, eating together and other
 such actions that promote
fraternity can only be inculcated
via ethics.

Thus, while law operates
 through fear appeal, ethics motivates
 a person to act in righteous manner.
 This generates a drive in a person
 to respect the rights of other and
 not even think of violating them.

Thus, ethics and not mere
 laws should be the guiding
principle for the society.

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b) "Ethics is not self but no self"-Swami Vivekananda

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Ethics are the standards of conduct that a society places upon itself to govern itself. These are the morals of the society to lead to a happy and prosperous society.

Swami Vivekananda believed that ethics stem from a selfless attitude where one thinks and care about others before than oneself.

There is no place for "self" or the self-centred nature of human being in ethics. In fact ethics are the seeds that take him away from the "self" and towards the path of empathy, compassion and service to the humankind.

For instance, Grandhi live an ethical life where he was never concerned for his personal wellbeing and always had compassion towards the downtrodden and helped establish an ethical society based on truth and non violence

It is only when everyone goes beyond self and reaches a place where there is no fight over resources can ethics be said to be established.

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Q.6) a) The recent spate of suicide among seemingly successful people shows us that there is a need for developing both the adversity quotient and emotional quotient. Explain.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Suicide ~~tend~~ spate lately points out to the deteriorating social and moral fabric of the society as well as the poor adversity and emotional quotient among the individuals.

Adversity quotient refers to the ability of handling and managing oneself during adverse situations and coping out mechanisms. For eg. the survivors of the holocaust during the Nazi Rule had high adversity quotient.

Emotional quotient refers to managing one's emotions during phases of turmoil and emerging out stronger from the crisis.

Need for developing these qualities, as

- ↳ Digital age of Industry 4.0 where there are fast paced changes taking place with every second.
- ↳ Uncertainty of the prevailing scenario where there is no certainty towards anything and one needs to be mentally prepared for it.
- ↳ Technology has brought excessive comfort to our lives reducing our adversity quotient.

The adversity and emotional quotient can be strengthened by reading autobiographies of people such as Kalam, Mandela and through proper socialisation techniques.

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b) Why is objectivity considered a foundational value in civil services? Is it possible for a civil servant to always be objective? Justify your answer with an example.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Objectivity refers to the act of taking decisions and actions purely on objective standards, eg merit without any bias or prejudice creeping from anywhere.

In civil services it is considered as a foundational value, as:

- ↳ Lot of discretionary power with civil servants, thus to take fair decisions, objectivity is must.
- ↳ To maintain the trust and credibility with the permanent executives
- ↳ To curb the menace of favoursitism, nepotism and influence of money power
- ↳ To fulfill the objective of secretal transformation in a transparent manner.

However, it might not always be possible for a civil servant to act in an objective manner when other foundational values such as empathy, compassion and spirit of public service stand in the way

Eg- If a poor lady asks for direct benefit transfer to her account and she is not enrolled with Aadhar, a civil servant has to go out of the way and beyond the rules and procedure to help her.

Thus, though objectivity is a desired value, it might not be suitable in all circumstances.

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c) Lack of transparency results in distrust and deep sense of insecurity. Explain how the Right to information has helped in building trust in government. How far do you think have the recent amendments to the Act diluted the very essence of the Act?

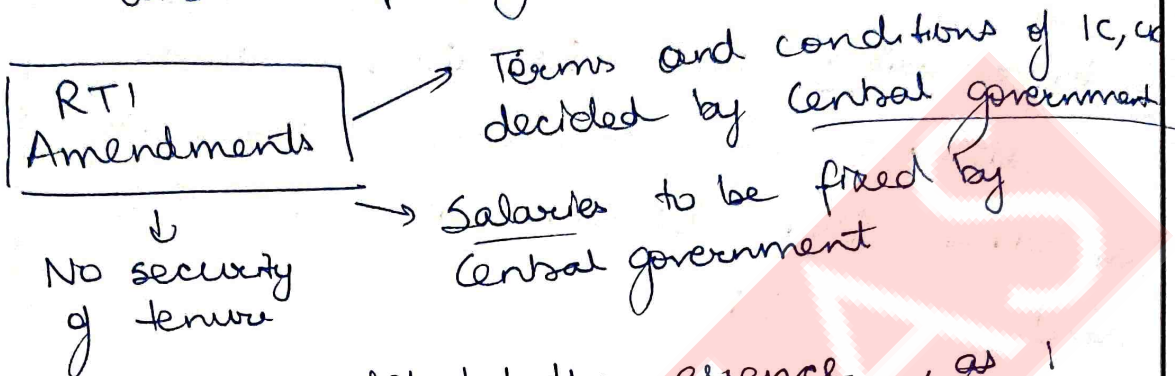
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Transparency refers to openness of information and its dilution leads to distrust and a sense of insecurity regarding their administration in the minds of citizens.

RTI Act 2005, a sunshine law, provided citizens with a right to information about public offices and their activities. It helped in building trust as follows:

- ↳ Accessibility of information about functioning of public offices
- ↳ Enhances transparency, accountability and thereby credibility of government's work
- ↳ Ensuring social contract — i.e. public taxpayers money is spent on the right activities

↳ Empowering citizens by providing them a tool to check malpractices and keep vigilance



These have diluted the essence, as!

- ↳ No Constitutional protection to the Information of Commissioners
- ↳ Might hamper their independent functioning and thereby transparency
- ↳ No robust mechanisms for transparency now.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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Section - B

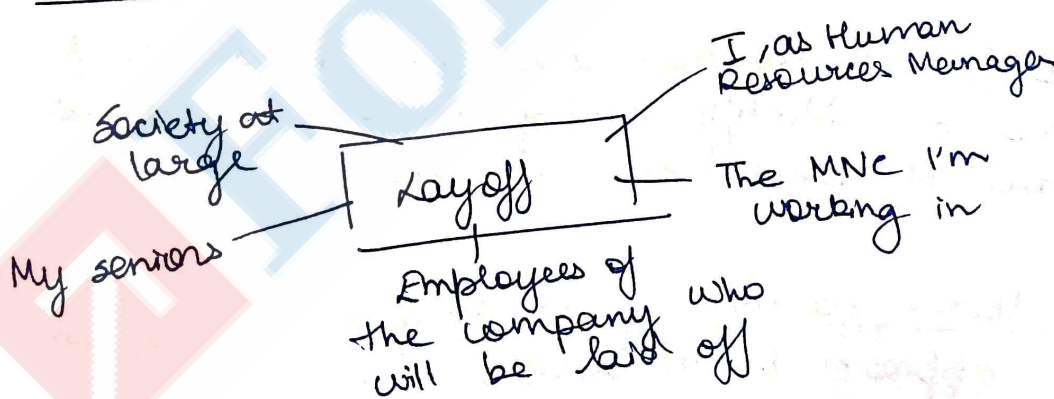
Q.7) You are working as a Human Resource Manager in a multinational company. The profit margins of the company have been coming down in recent years. The top management has decided to lay off around 20% of the employees in the light of reducing profits. You have been given the responsibility of identifying employees who can be laid off. You have been told not to discuss this issue with anyone and keep it a secret. Many of the people who will be laid off are your friends. While shortlisting employees you realize that many of the employees are dependent on the company for their survival. You also come to know that people working at the top are getting salary hikes despite company-wide moratorium on salary appraisals. You feel that if such hikes are not given, many jobs can be saved. You are now confused and not happy with the way things are done in the company. When you approach your seniors, you are told to follow the instructions and leave decisions to them.

- Identify the ethical issues from the viewpoint of different stakeholders.
- What will you do in such a situation?

(20 Marks, 250 Words)

The case presents the dilemma between following orders of superiors vs the action which is socially equitable and just as per your conscience.

Various stakeholders in the given case are :-



- a) Ethical issues involved in the case are:
- 1) Livelihood of the employees who will be laid off is at stake — They might be the sole breadwinners of their families and their laying off might put their families in a vulnerable position.
 - 2) Unequal nature of remuneration in corporate sector — where on one hand the top employees are getting salary-hikes and on other hand, company is laying off other workers who are even my friends.
↳ This highlights the inequalities prevalent in a capitalist world which undermines values of equity and social justice.
 - 3) The laid off workers are my friends and I've to identify among these — personal crisis of conscience for me
 - 4) Top down nature of work culture — When I approached my seniors for my apprehensions, my views were not taken into account and I'm asked to

just blindly follow the instructions

- 5) Survivability of the company - as the profit margins are declining and I've to find one or the other way to maintain its profit for the long term sustainability of the company's business and the employees dependent on it.

- b) In the given situation, I as the Human Resource Manager have to balance the interests of the company and its employees

↳ I will take help of data analytics team to find the optimum number of employees that the company can keep employed without compromising on its financial sustainability.

↳ Then, I shall see ^{even} without the salary trikes of top employees, if there's a need of laying off or not

↳ The unequal and unjust nature of remuneration, if found will be

communicated by me in written to my seniors and I'll try to sensitize them about the situation that how a company is formed by its employees and their vulnerable positions in case they are laid off unnecessarily.

↳ If the laying off is still found to be the only alternative, then a list of employees who have a poor track record and who will not be grossly affected by it will be shortlisted to lay off. Meanwhile, ~~other~~ I'll try finding other jobs for them as per their skills and will keep ready good recommendation letters for them.

Also, income support might be continued for them on a partial basis for some time.

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Q.8) Jyoti Kumari is a young girl staying in Gurugram with her father. Due to a nationwide lockdown and cessation of all economic activity, her father loses his job. With no work at hand, and little means to survive in the city, Jyoti and her father decide to go back to home in Bihar. However, no means of transport are available given the lockdown situation.

Jyoti decides to cycle more than 1200 km to bring her sick father from Haryana to their native village in Bihar.

The story of Jyoti and her father is not an isolated one in India. 'Lockdown restrictions introduced by the government have forced many migrant workers out of jobs, forcing them to migrate to hometowns and villages. Although the governments at various levels have been trying to ease the movements of migrants, stories of Jyoti and her father hints that more needs to be done.

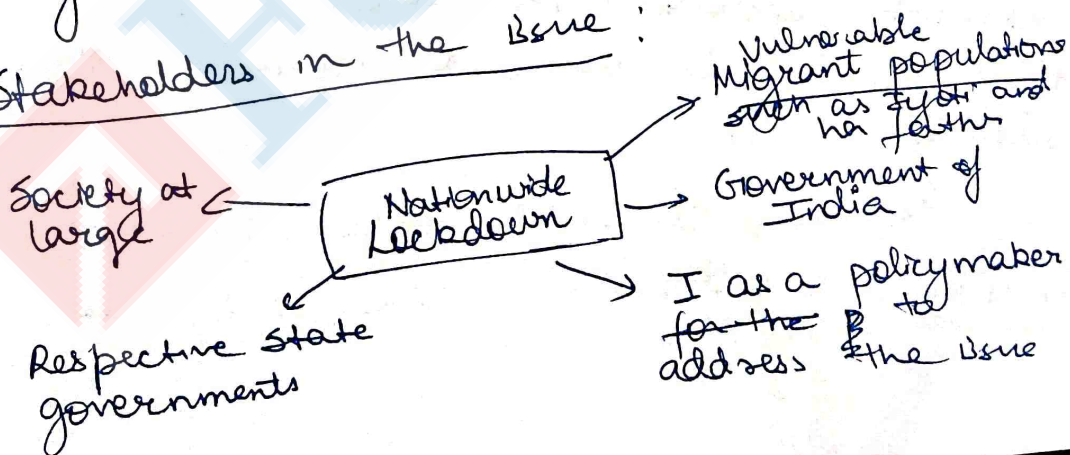
There is also the added issue of bearing the cost of travel of the migrants from their respective states to their home states. Left with no money, due to loss of livelihood, State governments are unwilling to bear the cost of travel of migrant labourers.

You have been tasked with drafting a policy for migrant workers affected by the lockdown. How will you approach the problem and what would be the main elements of your suggested policy?

(20 Marks, 250 Words)

The issue highlights the vulnerability of the migrant population in India which gets even exacerbated during distress times such as the pandemic and subsequent lockdown where the migrants are often the hardest hit

Stakeholders in the Issue :



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Ethical issues involved in the case:

- 1) Failure of the welfare state — to take care of the basic needs of its citizens, where the migrant population is left with little means for survival.
- 2) Plight of the migrant workers — with no job security, lack of basic health and sanitation facilities or any such social security schemes.
- 3) Poor financial health of the states — because of drying up of revenue sources and no political incentive to fund travel expenses of migrant workers.

I as the policy drafter for the migrant workers will first gather the data regarding the interstate migrant population in India in the previous census and various other surveys.

Further, I shall look upon the distributional pattern of the migrant

population and take suggestion of various experts in the field and sociologists to devise localised strategies for each segment of the population, eg women, children and elderly and incorporate their suggestions in the draft policy.

Main elements of the policy suggested by me would be:

- ① First of all, to provide the migrant population who have lost their jobs with cash support to sustain their daily lives.
- ② Providing them with all the basic health and sanitation facilities and take away rations and pre cooked meals for those unable to access or afford it.
- ③ Mandate financial institutions to provide migrants with loans and corporates to help them via their CSR contributions to help the government financially. Eg PM CARES fund might be used for the purpose.

- ④ Engaging NHOs and other civil society organisations to integrate the migrant workers into the mainstream and help them in their distress times.
- ⑤ Assuring the migrants of their livelihoods and income support by enrolling them in insurance schemes run by the government.
- ⑥ Provision for rail and bus services for the migrants who still want to go back to their native places and making provisions for their employment there using schemes such as MGNREGA.
- ⑦ Ensuring quick rolling out of One Nation One Ration Card scheme.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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Q.9) You
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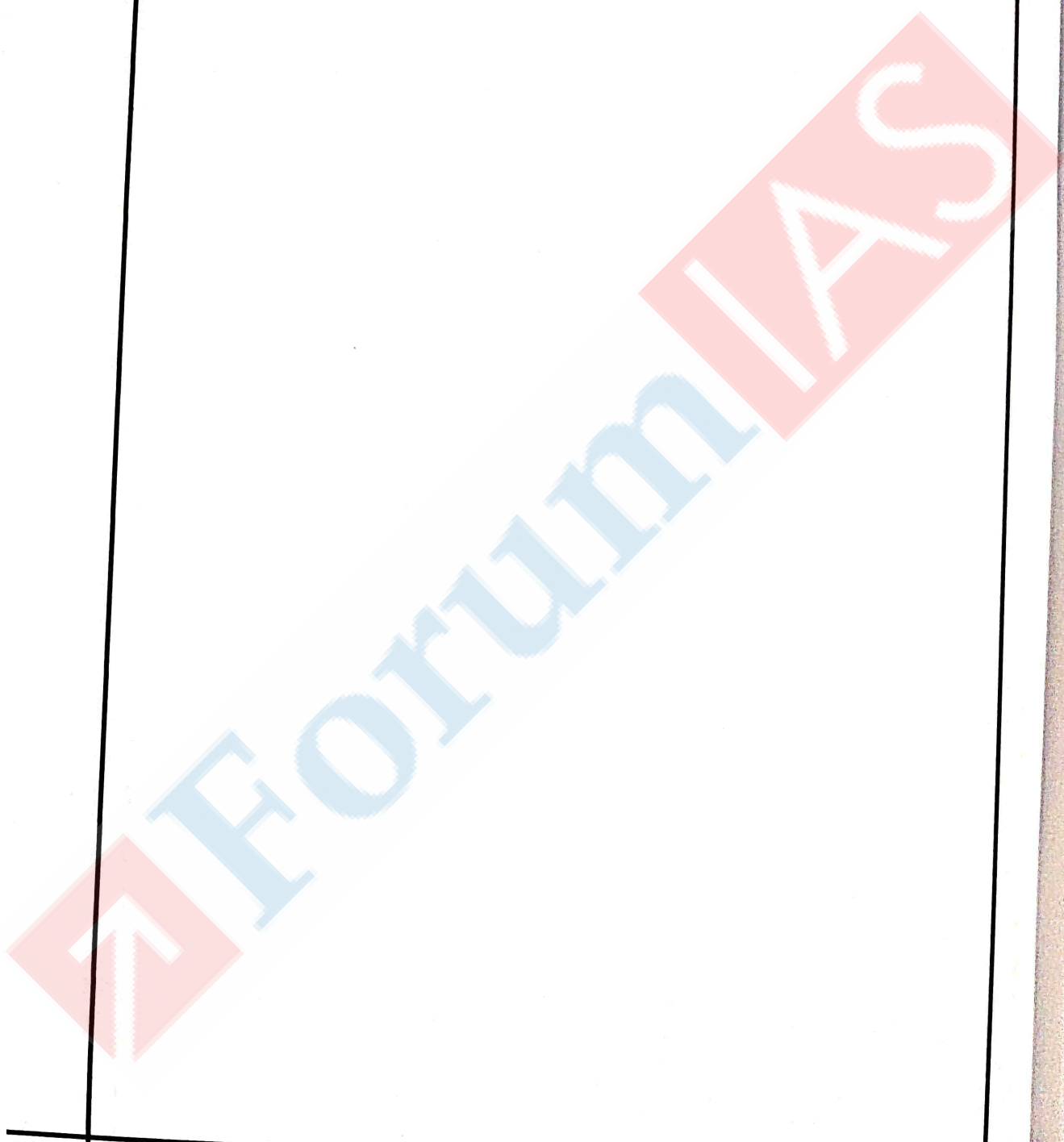
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Q.9) You are a senior doctor serving in Ram Manohar Lohia government hospital in Delhi. This hospital is one of the designated COVID-19 hospitals. Delhi being a hotspot of COVID cases, is witnessing an influx of many hundreds of daily patients to such government hospitals. In such a situation, the patient load on your hospital is relatively high. As a result, there is a mismatch between requirement and availability of critical health care infrastructure such as ICU beds, ventilators, oxygen gas cylinders, etc. Moreover, the media is continually alleging the neglect of medical ethics in providing medical facilities to the patients in the name of the hospital's Triage policy. Further, it is also alleged that many senior citizens with corona symptoms are being refused for the required medical facilities like ventilators.

Amid such critical situations at your hospital, one day, five patients turn up to get medical aid. This group of patients includes an 85-year-old lady, a 65 years old diabetic patient, a 20-year-old college student, a 35 years' pregnant lady, and 45 years old foreign national. All the patients require the ventilation facility. With an insufficient number of ventilators left in the COVID care unit in your hospital, answer the following questions:

- What do you understand by Triage Policy? What are the ethical challenges in framing a triage policy?
- What would be your priority order for providing intensive health care service to these five patients?
- On what ethical criteria, would you base your judgment?

(20 Marks, 250 Words)



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Q.10) Singham has been posted as Superintendent of Police in a district. In a gruesome incident, a girl was raped and murdered in his district. The news was widely covered by local and national media. The heated media debates and wide media coverage have created strong general public opinion against this incident. Citizen Groups have organized peaceful protests all over the country to show solidarity with the victim and her family. The girl's family is also politically connected.

One day, Singham had received a phone call from the Home Ministry. He was ordered to solve this case on a priority basis. Singham was also aware that every police personnel working on the case had received feelers from the government to quickly solve the case. The police team assigned to the case acted quickly and suspects were identified and arrested. However, during the transfer of suspects from jail to court, the suspects were killed in an encounter.

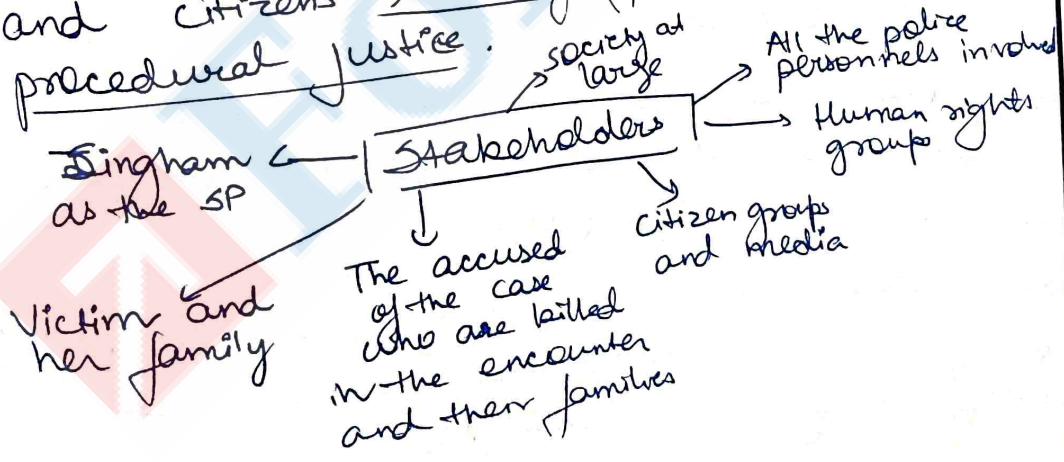
According to police personnel on duty, the accused snatched the gun of a police officer and fired upon the police, trying to escape. Police retaliated and exchange of fire took place which resulted in death of suspects.

This action of the on-duty police personnel has been receiving appreciation from all quarters ranging from public to politicians. On the other hand, human rights groups are criticizing this action alleging that it was a deliberate and planned extra-judicial killing. Singham also suspects that foul play may be involved due to political pressure.

- What are different ethical issues involved in this case?
- If you were in Singham's position, what would you do in this situation?

(20 Marks, 250 Words)

The case presents the issue of failure of state to provide security to its women and citizens lack of faith in the procedural justice.



a) Ethical issues involved in the case:

- Lack of faith of citizens on institutional justice while following due procedure because of the widespread delay in the system of justice delivery.
- Demand for instant justice by the citizens in case of heinous crimes such as sape and murder which shook the collective conscience of the public and society.
- Pressure on police personnel to quickly solve the case which might led to hastening of the process and missing the real suspects.
- Fear of media trial by the government and its institutions.
- Appreciation and fame by the public of police personnel who might not have followed the due process.
- Extra judicial killings by the police as it is not their duty to punish, their duty is only to investigate properly.

- Lack of fair trial opportunity to the suspects who might not have committed the crime or might have got lesser punishments rather than losing their Right to Life.
- The real culprits who might be from some powerful section of society might have evaded \Rightarrow Thus lack of justice to the girl who is raped and her family.

b) If I was in Singham's position, I would have tried to find the true facts about the police encounter whether it was actually in defense or was it planned beforehand.

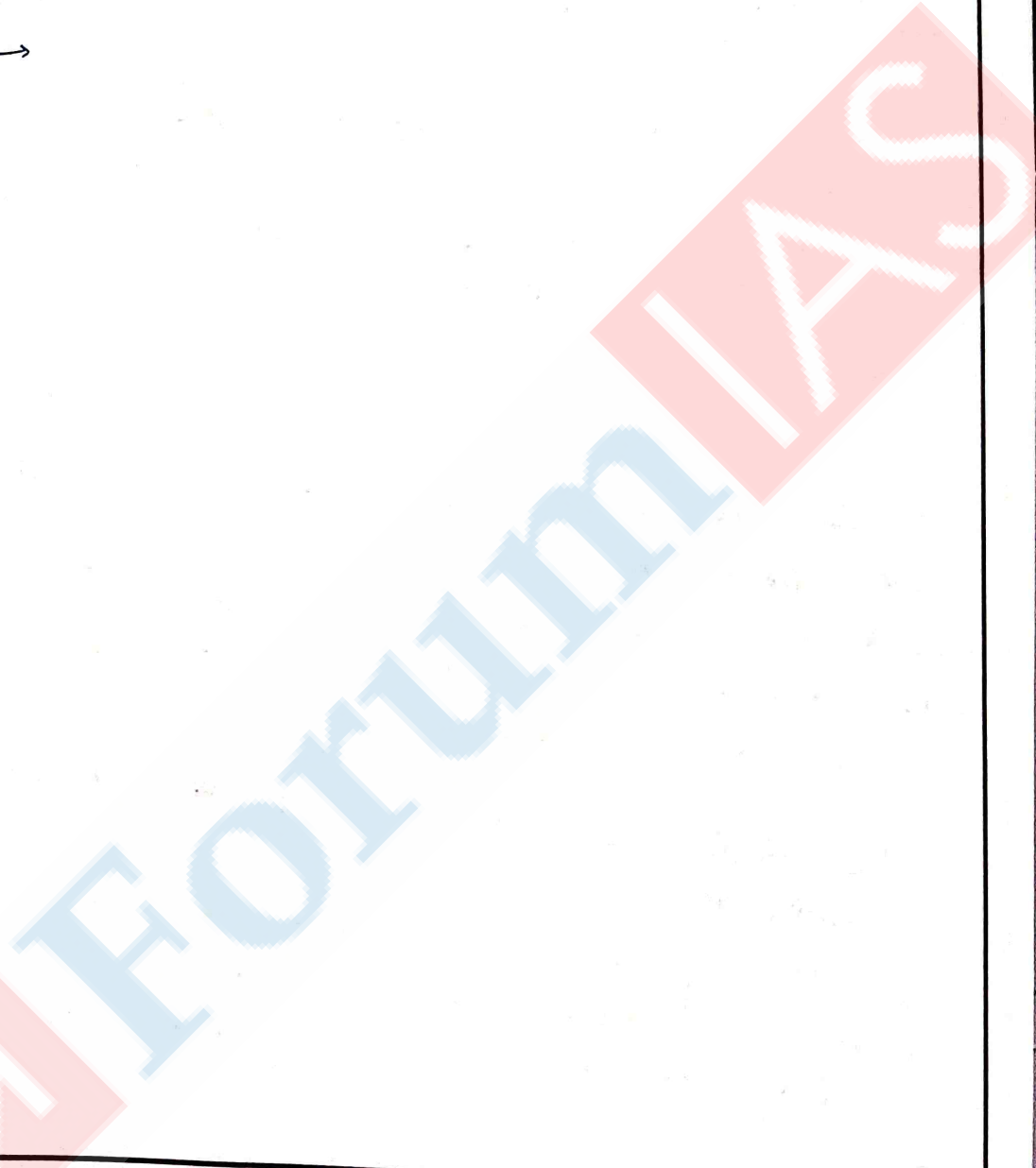
\hookrightarrow For this, I will employ a separate investigation team.

\hookrightarrow If the personnel are suspected to have committed extra judicial killing, an FIR would be filed against them.

\hookrightarrow Disciplinary action needs to be taken

against them as it is a gross violation of Rule of law and their public duty to secure the lives of citizens.

↳



Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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| Structure | | Content | |
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Q.11) S
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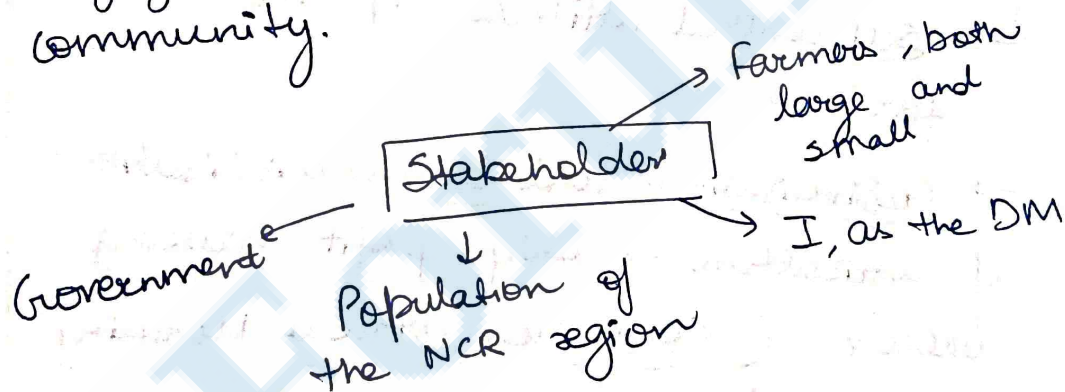
Call u
Blog :

Q.11) Stubble burning has been in the news for the last few years as a major reason for pollution in Delhi. You are the District Magistrate of an agricultural district close to NCR which has notorious reputation for stubble burning after the end of kharif season. On investigation you found that farmers burn stubble because it is cheapest and quick-est way to clear the field. The large farmers, who are capable of moving on to other methods of stubble disposal, also resort to stubble burning. The government has made it illegal to burn stubble, and offered incentive for hiring machines to dispose stubble in an environment friendly manner. However, no farmer has given up the practice of stubble burning in your district.

- a) Do you think this attitude is related to only financial considerations or does it have any ethical dimensions also?
- b) How will you ensure that practice of stubble burning is checked in your district?

(20 Marks, 250 Words)

The case study presents the issue of a major environmental and health concern arising because of negligent attitude of the farmer community.



a) Attitude refers to the predisposition to act in a certain manner.

In the case study, farmers resort to stubble burning as this is the cheapest and quickest method, thus there are huge financial considerations.

However, even the ~~large~~ rich farmers resorting to it and the fact that despite incentives by government to move away from it, it is being practised indicated that it also has ethical considerations, as:

- ↳ Self centred attitude of the farmers
- ↳ Capitalisation and commercialisation of agriculture — only profit making exercise (Commerce without Morality as one of the seven sins of Gandhiji)
- ↳ Lack of compassion and empathy towards those who suffer health consequences because of pollution

b) Measures to ensure to check / stubble burning in my district :

↳ Awareness and education programmes with the help of community engagement will be conducted by me → to ensure that everyone is aware and on board on the issue

↳ Information dissemination about government incentives to take up the alternatives to stubble burning

↳ Requesting the policy makers by sending in inputs by experts to make policy changes so that farmers can adopt sustainable practices without losing on revenue

↳ Giving income support to small

and marginal farmers to ensure their sustenance during the entire transformation phase.

↳ Working on community engagement to solve the issue in a participative manner.

↳ Strict legal actions and penalty against those who still defy government guidelines.

Issues such as these can only be solved by strengthening the moral fabric of the members of society to care for each other as well as the Mother Earth.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

| | | | |
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| Structure | | Content | |
| Question Interpretation | | Total : | |

Q.12) You have been appointed as the panchayat secretary in Phulera, a small village in Ballia district of Uttar Pradesh. You have little interest in working as a panchayat secretary but due to lack of any better job opportunity, you have joined this position. You have always lived in metro cities and have little knowledge of rural ways of life.

While posting you were told that Phulera was a reserved constituency for women and the gram pradhan and other block members are women. When you reached Phulera, you were greeted by Mr. Brij Bhusan Dubey. Everyone called Mr Brij Bhusan Dubey "pradhan ji". You were surprised to see a man being called pradhan because gram pradhan was supposed to be a woman named Mrs. Lalita Devi. When you inquired, the clerk in the panchayat office told you that the person who is being called pradhan ji is actually the husband of official gram pradhan, Mrs. Lalita Devi. Other people who introduced themselves as block members were also male, whereas official members were supposed to be females.

Mr. Brij Bhusan Dubey takes care of official business in the village and Mrs. Lalita Devi, who is the actual gram pradhan is least interested in official business of panchayat. You know that this arrangement is against the spirit of reserving seats for women in panchayats, but you have accepted it.

The Republic day function is coming in few days and gram pradhan is expected to lead the flag hoisting ceremony and sing the national anthem on the stage at panchayat office. But you come to know that Mr. Brij Bhusan Dubey is planning to hoist the national flag and sing the national anthem instead of Mrs. Lalita Devi. The panchayat clerk tells you that Mr. Brij Bhusan Dubey hoisted the flag and sang the national anthem last year as well. When you ask Mrs. Lalita Devi to perform the official ceremony, she tells you that she does not know the national anthem and insists that it is more convenient for her husband to perform the ceremony. Your conscience is telling you that it will be wrong for someone else to hoist the national flag and sing the national anthem instead of official gram pradhan. Considering the present situation answer the following questions:

- Why does the culture of "pradhan pati" exist in India?
- Some of the options for action available to you are listed below. Discuss the merits and demerits of each of the options:
 - Permit Mr. Brij Bhusan Dubey to hoist the flag and sing the national anthem as happened last year.
 - Ask Mrs. Lalita Devi to hoist the flag and invite school children to sing the national anthem.
 - Persuade Mrs. Lalita Devi to perform the ceremony herself.

(20 Marks, 250 Words)

What will be your course of action?

The case presents the "Panchayat Pati syndrome" prevalent in our nation stemming out from the deep rooted patriarchy.

a) The culture of "pradhan pati" exists in India because:

↳ Women are considered subordinate to men and thus are not expected to lead them.

↳ Low level of women empowerment especially in the political sphere.

↳ Family pressures on the women to do household chores and not participate in outdoor social activities.

↳ Very few role models for women in a leading position.

↳ No independent identity for a woman who is always supposed to be dependent on her husband

↳ Stereotypical attitude towards women

b) The merits and demerits of the given options to me as the Panchayat Secretary are as follows :

Merits

Demerits

Option ①

- Smooth operation of the festivity
- Respecting the traditional culture of that village
- Harass free and no hardwork required on my end

- Acceptance of the stereotypical and patriarchal attitude by me
- Foregoing of an opportunity to make a positive change
- Goal of women empowerment as envisaged by the reservation policy not achieved
- Against my conscience to let wrong things happen

Option
②Merits

- Fulfilling my duty and responsibility as the Panchayat Secretary.
- Participation of children will be welcomed by all
- Not much problem posed to Lalita Devi to learn National Anthem

Demerits

- Women empowerment might not be completely achieved as she would not gain self confidence
- Defering one's duty upon others

Option
③

- Gaining self confidence and dignity and pride
- Exemplary case of women empowerment

- Unnecessary trouble for Lalita Devi

I would choose the third course of action while allowing children to sing with her. For this, I would personally make sure that she learns the national anthem and gain stand as a true leader of the village

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

| | | | |
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| Structure | | Content | |
| Question Interpretation | | Total : | |

Mentor Feedback Questions

- 1
- 2
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Test Goal

- 1
- 2
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Outcomes

-
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Marking Scheme

| Marks | Good | Average | Below Average |
|-----------|------------|-----------|---------------|
| 10 Marker | 3.75 – 5.0 | 3.0 – 3.5 | < 3.0 |
| 15 Marker | 5.75 – 7.0 | 4.0 – 5.5 | < 4.0 |

*Subject to change without prior notice.