

TEST CODE : 4 1 0 0 8

FIAS – MGP 2021(C-4) - Half Length Test #13

ForumIAS

## GENERAL STUDIES

Name Of Candidate	G.V.S. Pavan Datta	
Roll No.	1910075927	Date: 30/12/2020

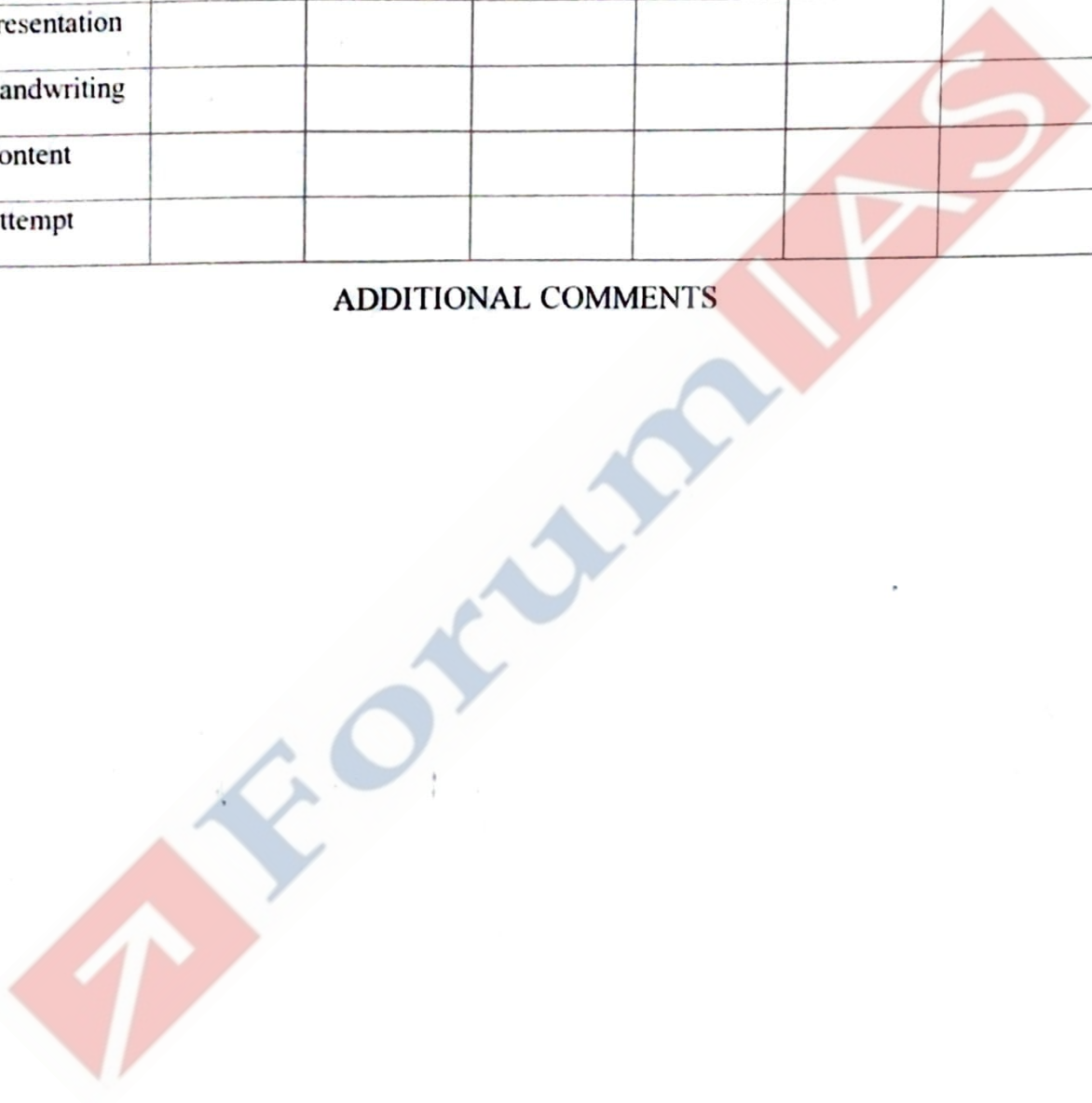
Time Allowed: One and Half Hours

Maximum Marks: 125

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTION
Q. No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained	<p>1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.</p> <p>2. There are <b>NINE</b> questions printed in ENGLISH, <u>all</u> questions are compulsory.</p> <p>3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is <u>indicated</u> against it.</p> <p>4. Answers must be written in the <u>medium</u> authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.</p> <p>5. <u>Word limit</u> 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.</p> <p><b>Any specific messages for ForumIAS Mentors/ Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write it here.</b></p> <p>① Please evaluate critically:.....</p> <p>② Writing Big paragraphs in Case Studies &amp; Section (A) ? ..... Is it feasible?.....</p> <p>③ Please evaluate &amp; comment on ..... application of thinkers?.....</p>
1			
2			
3			
4			
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6			
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8			
9			
10			
<b>Total Marks:</b>			
<b>Remarks:</b>			<p style="text-align: center;"><b>For Student Only</b></p> <p>Start Time   11:00 PM      End Time   12:30 AM</p> <p>Mode Of Examination:      Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>      Offline <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>For Office Use Only</b></p> <p>ECN CODE:      EG:      Evaluation Date:</p>

<b>Parameters</b>	<b>Excellent</b>	<b>Very Good</b>	<b>Good</b>	<b>Average</b>	<b>Poor</b>	<b>Very Poor</b>
Language						
Structure						
Presentation						
Handwriting						
Content						
Attempt						

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS





## Section A

Q.1) Subhash Chandra Bose argued that end justifies the means while for Mahatma Gandhi means were more important than ends. What is your opinion on the ends vs means debate? Justify your arguments with examples.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

"Means & Ends" school of thought are represented by Deontological & Teleological ethics respectively.

"Subhash chandra Bose" argued that end justifies the means especially in case of suppression & assault & stress. Thus, he created Indian National Army & reverted to violence as the means to justify Independence (End).

But for Mahatma Gandhiji, means were more important. He was more ardent in deontology school of thought. As supported by many, he struck with Truth, Nonviolence as the means to achieve end.

Even though both approaches have some merits & demerits, both are part & parcel of ethical human conduct.

My opinion:-

According to me, ethics' essence has a component called as "Subjectivity" & "Contextual"  
Thus a person can follow any path based on the context & the situation.

For eg:-

① Autodriver saving a patient (Emergency) by overriding the Red-light law is wrong means but ethically end is good

② Means matter:- A businessman earning crores of money should always be in good means.

Therefore, these represent adapting two different ideologies in 2 different contexts.

As means supported by Kantian philosophy & ends supported by various thinkers like Aristotle etc. there should be conjunction & intersection between two approaches for Common good

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

Q.2) How does religion impact the morality of a person? Are moral standards universal or do they vary across time and place?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Religion, as a social institution have a huge impact <sup>on</sup> of morality of a person.

### Positive Impact

- ✓ 1) It will help to adhere to values, traditions customs Eg:- Truth, Non-violence etc.
- ✓ 2) Helps in social cohesion Eg:- Satsanghe
- ✓ 3) Provides various scriptures that may help to adhere to the system
- ✓ 4) May inculcate spirituality that may help for peaceful co-existence. Eg:- Yoga, Meditation etc.

### Negative Impact

- ✓ 1) May gain orthodoxy (or) regressive ideas
- ✓ 2) It may try to induce "religious fundamentalism" & radicalism Eg:- Islamic terrorism.
- ✓ 3) People may lose rationality by blind belief  
eg:- Hinduism → "Patriarchy".

Moral standards may not be universal because one society may consider it moral and another may not.

Eg: 1) Pre-marital affairs may <sup>not</sup> be unethical in some western societies but definitely non-ethical in traditional Hindu Society.

2) Naga Head Hunting is moral in them but according to Indian law, it is not moral.

Therefore, the concept of Relative morality comes into existence. Thus they vary across time & place. Sati was morally good in early India but not it is not.

Thus "moral standards" may change with time & place but need to be accustomed for common community & society good.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



Q.3) Which famous personality has inspired you the most? Why? How have you adopted his or her philosophy in your life?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Famous personality who has inspired me the most is Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

Why? →

M.S. Dhoni, being from a middle class family has achieved to greater heights in life due to his qualities.

1. He was passionate about his game.
2. He made huge sacrifice to initially leave his game & did job for his family. It also showed his responsibility towards them.
3. He takes credit to the team's failures & gives credit to the young players when team succeeded.
4. His coolness has earned the title "Captain Cool".
5. His courage in extreme stressful

Conditions earned him title "The Best Finisher"

6. He devoted his life after cricket to Army. This shows his patriotism.

7. He removed certain great players in view of Common Team Good. etc.

How I have adopted his philosophy

1. I ~~am~~ <sup>was</sup> a leader (SPL) in my school.
2. Even in extreme stressful conditions like while working, I tend to remain calm.
3. I help my mother in her domestic chores. This shows my responsibility.
4. I was courageous when there was an allegation against my team member for his conduct but it was false.

M.S. Phoni has inspired me so much.

He as a leader, charismatic personality, inspired many millions of people across the world

"HARDWORK IS KEY TO SUCCESS" - Can be apt for him.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	





**Q.4) What is Gandhi's talisman? How can this principle be effective in resolving ethical dilemmas in public life?**

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Gandhi's talisman exactly envisages upon the purest form of compassion towards the weaker section of people.

**Talisman** - He once told that when there is an **ethical dilemma**, one question yourself whether your action brings any good/welfare for poorest of the poor. Then when you feel the justice is being done for them, you are ethically right & proceed forward.

**Usage of principle in resolving ethical dilemmas in public life:**

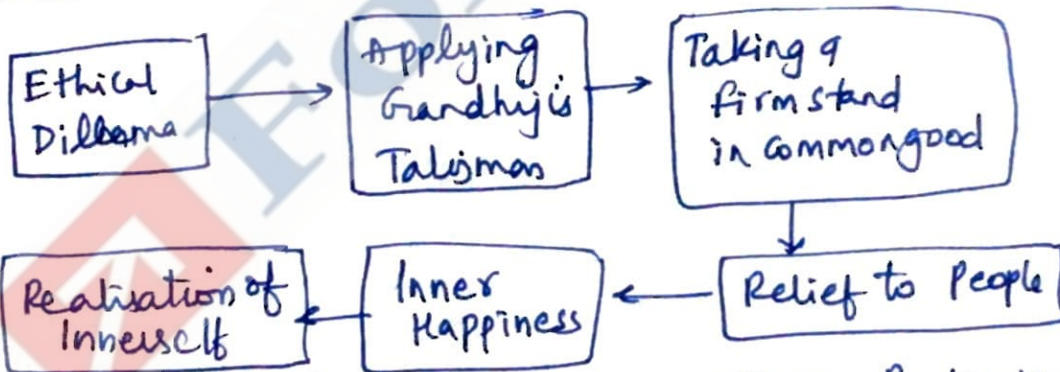
1. Public life denotes Political/Cultural/Economical areas including the workplace
2. One has to deal with many sectors of Society in public life.

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3. Ethical dilemmas <sup>are</sup> also common in the Public life.

For eg: As a district collector, when a 60yr old man who was not under any scheme, suffering from a disabling disease comes to him, he needs to ethically deal with the situation by providing some relief even from other approaches.

Vulnerable, poor people represent many people in Indian population. Hence Gandhiji's Talisman help in solving many ethical dilemmas.



As envisaged by Eudaimonian ethics, Realisation is important for Happiness (Aristotle).

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

Q.5) Discuss the concept of purushartha in Indian philosophy? How does it act as a source of ethical regulation of behaviour in Indian society?

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

Purushartha refers to a distinct Indian concept which tries to explain various materialistic pleasures of ~~but~~ a human.

Concept - Purusharthas ~~are~~ determine 4 elements namely Dharma, Artha, Kama &

Moksha.

Dharma → Every action should be according to dharma (which is right path).

Artha → Earning money / materialistic wealth should be ethical.

Kama → Worldly pleasures should abide the ethicality & means has to be correct.

Eg: Not indulging in prostitution.

MOKSHA → The salvation is the result of dharma & its practice in life.

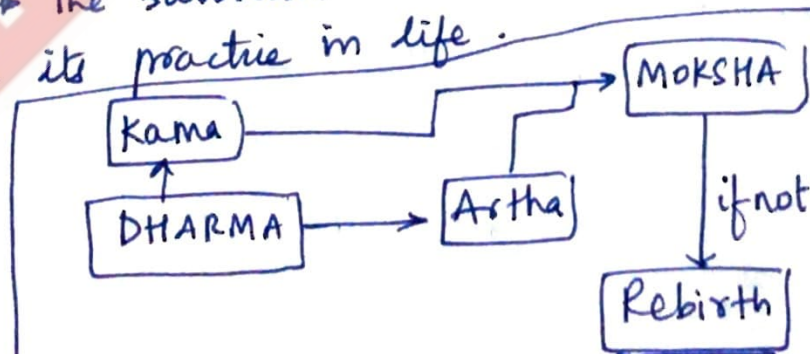


fig. showing Purusharthas

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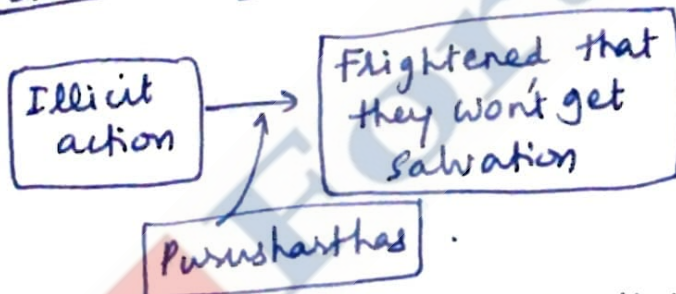
Purusharthas - source of ethical regulation of behaviours in Indian Society:-

1. Indian society consists of various dimensions & elements which may lead to problems.

2. for eg:

a) Corruption: Allegedly earning money in illicit ways. Purusharthas will regulate by saying that MOKSHA will not occur.

(b) Crimes:- Any crime has to be punished according to the law. This has philosophical basis from Purusharthas where they (classes) act as social behaviours & regulation.



Teleology Deontological ethics deals with "ends" that determine the ethicality of the human action. Purusharthas signify & quantify the deontological approach for Common good.

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

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Q.6) Given below is a quotation of a moral thinker/philosopher. Bring out what it means to you in the present context.

It is easy to dodge our responsibilities, but we cannot dodge the consequences of our dodging of responsibilities.

(10 Marks, 150 Words)

The quote simply exuberates our means where they are not followed may not lead to the desired ends (consequences).

Dodging of Responsibilities means not fulfilling one's duties properly. It is very easy to "easily forego our responsibilities".

Eg:- A doctor if not performing his duties properly may kill the patient.

Here, he may easily dodge his responsibility of serving the patient. Consequence is death which is unethical in itself. Therefore "Dodging of Responsibilities lead to wrong consequences".

For eg:- Osama Bin Laden, as a great engineer has to perform many useful duties. He had foregone them. The consequence is Al Qaeda & Suffering of public due to terrorism.

Thus consequentialist ethics deals with only the ends. But the responsibility that may not fulfil the consequences is unethical.  
The intention is useful unethical.

Therefore, One has to perform his duties without any intention, emotions irrespective of caste, gender, race etc. This concept "Veil of Ignorance" ~~letter~~ given by John Rawls envisages same.

Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	



## Section B

Q.7) Jayant is a doctor in a government hospital in Pune. He is a warm and friendly person. He is famous in his colony as "doctor sahab". His neighbors often approach him with their health problems and Jayant tries to solve them without even charging consultation fees.

Jayant's hospital has been designated as a Covid-19 facility and he is among the frontline workers who have been fighting against corona virus pandemic. Jayant has worked with dedication and commitment to save the lives of many patients. Recently, he was hailed as Covid-19 warrior and honored by the Resident Welfare Association of his society.

Pune has emerged as a hotspot of corona infection and case load in his hospital has been rising day by day. After serving in Covid-19 ward for more than 30 days, Jayant developed fever and sore throat. When he was tested for corona virus, it was found that he is Covid-19 positive. Jayant was recommended home quarantine as his condition was not serious and he was not in need of ventilator support. However, when he returned home the same RWA, which hailed him as a warrior, refused to allow him entry in the society. Jayant was shocked to see this attitude of his neighbors. He and his family requested their neighbors and the RWA to let him enter his house but many families in the society strongly objected to this and called Jayant a "virus spreader" and health risk for the entire society.

- Analyze the conduct of RWA from various ethical perspectives.
- What would you have done in the case if you were the head of the Resident Welfare Association (RWA)?

(20 Marks, 250 Words)

This case is the typical stigma associated with the CORONAVIRUS pandemic in present day scenario & common conduct towards the COVID 19 positive patients.

① CONDUCT OF RWA FROM VARIOUS ETHICAL PERSPECTIVES:-

Conduct of RWA presents various dilemmas  
between

(i) Jayant's right to live with dignity Vs

Colony's common good.

- (ii) Service rendered by Jayanth & coronavirus pandemic caused stigma.
- (iii) Jayanth's mental strength vs Society's common welfare & condition.

The conduct of RWA has rightly have done with the conwining notion of pandemic's threat to the colony. But they also have to recognize the services rendered ~~to~~ by Jayanth in pre-covid times when they don't allow Jayanth into colony, it feels so ~~und~~ disturbing which may undermine his capabilities as a doctor.

Jayanth, as a good doctor has selflessness, passion, dedication, hardworking. According to Deontology of Immanuel Kant, goodwill is important as it itself is good. Gandhiji rightly envisaged that Service to Humanity's



service to god. Mother Teresa has served leprosy patients which thought to be more stigmatised those days.

Even though Colony's conduct & its apprehension of COVID-19 pandemic is right, there are many ways that it could deal so that morale of Jayanth doesn't go down.

⑥ As a head of Resident Welfare Association (RWA), first of all, I will convince all the residents of colony that "He has no major symptoms" & get a certification from doctor that he would be safe without hospitalisation. I would definitely apologize to Jayanth on behalf of colony members. I will also make sure that "He would serve the mandatory Home Quarantine" & also follow up the doctors. I will also, in my sphere, spread the correct information regarding COVID-19 pandemic & symptoms

which are not that hard in case of Jayanth. In the official capacity, I will also arrange Jayanth's family get all the essential commodities.

By doing this, I would show leadership, compassion, gratefulness, gratitude, empathy & responsibility.

As Common Public good is important, there is also need ~~for~~ to justify services rendered by Jayanth. After his recovery, all the colony residents could apologize him.

"Gratitude is Best gift for any Service"

## Feedback ( For OFFICE use only )

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	



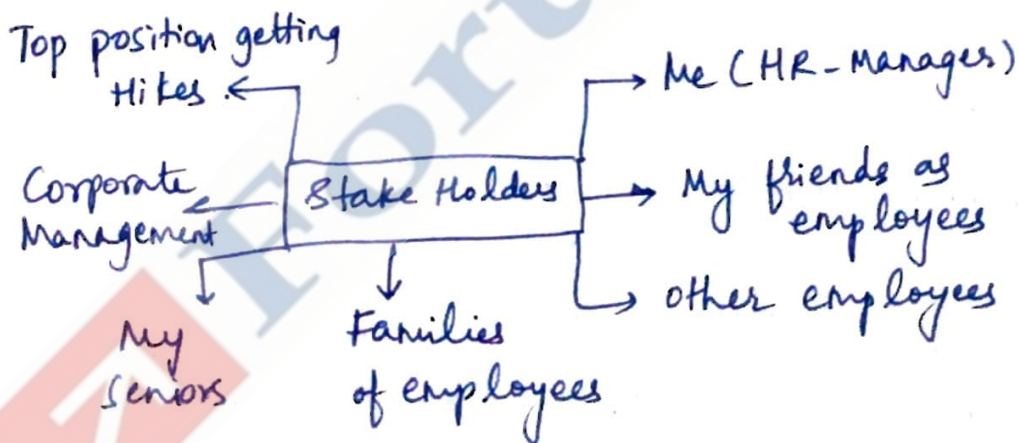
Q.8) You are working as a Human Resource Manager in a multinational company. The profit margins of the company have been coming down in recent years. The top management has decided to lay off around 20% of the employees in the light of reducing profits. You have been given the responsibility of identifying 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 typically quantify various issues involved in corporate industry.

## Various Stake Holders



(a) ethical issues from view point of different Stake Holders:

(i) Me (as H.R. Manager):

① ~~1~~ (i) My conscience (Vs) Corporate professional values & well being

(ii) Leadership (Vs) Obedience of Me regarding issue towards seniors

(iii) Professional secrecy (Vs) Whistle blowing

② Seniors:

(i) Professional Management (Vs) Ethical Management

③ Employees who are going to laid off:-

(i) Right to livelihood (Vs) Company's Orders

(ii) Unemployment (Vs) Right to protest

④ Multi National Company:-

(i) Company rules & codes (Vs) ethical concerns regarding employees

(ii) <sup>Unwanted</sup> Like in the top position (Vs) ~~Ris~~ Providing Basic issues & Job facilities to the employees

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(b) What Could I have done?

As a Human Resource Manager (HRM), My job as an employee to deal with the Human Resources according to Company's policy.

But removing them suddenly will create havoc in their lives as individuals. So, first I would persuade my seniors & explain about the situation of my employees. I would ask them to think about the criteria (which in official document could be laid down) to identify the people to be laid off.

As an employee, I can't let my company down because of huge losses. Therefore, I would lay down ~~the~~ criteria & identify the proper persons even if they involve my friends.

I would also take the issue of "Hike" at the top to the concerned authority in the head campus. ~~with~~ this will definitely have impact on me as my seniors may retaliate.

But due to ~~to~~ the qualities like leadership, compassion, selflessness, goodwill, empathy towards laid off employees, & questions good at the same time following my professional ethics & maintaining secrecy will uphold & all my values & <sup>also</sup> help my colleagues.

to  
" Transparency & Accountability is needed at the hour even in corporate ethics "

## Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		Total :	



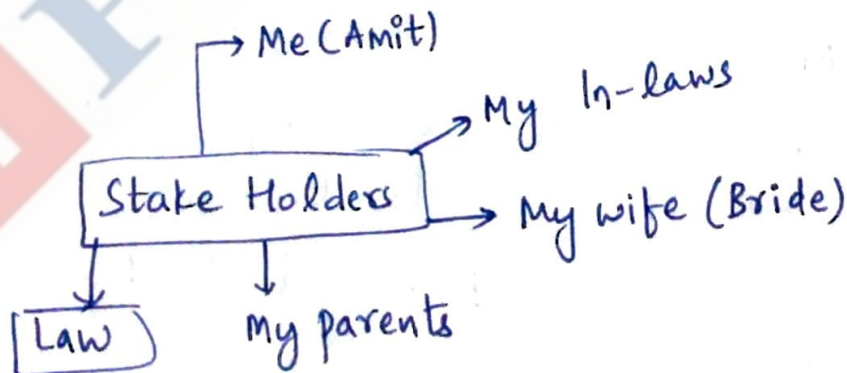
Q.9) Amit is from an economically poor background. He has been selected for the prestigious IAS service. Fathers of many eligible brides have approached his home for the marriage of their daughter. Amit's parents have selected a bride for him, and he is also happy with the matrimonial proposal. He comes to know that his future father-in-law plans to give a large amount of money to his family as a dowry. Amit is unhappy and tells his father-in-law that he will not accept any such money. But his father-in-law insists that the money is for his only daughter. Also, he hints that Amit may not be able to afford the expensive lifestyle of his prospective bride given his limited government salary. He is not giving dowry, but a blessing to his daughter, and he insists on giving the money. Amit's family does not see any problem with this gift as they have not asked for anything and it is the bride's father who wants to give gifts voluntarily. Consider yourself in Amit's position and answer the following questions:

- Who are the stakeholders in this case? Discuss their ethical position.
- Given below are some of the options available before Amit
  - Accept the gift and go ahead with the marriage, as there is no harm in it.
  - Call of the wedding if the father does not agree to withdraw the gift.

Enumerate further options available before Amit and evaluate each of them, suggesting the most suitable course of action. (25 Marks, 250 Words)

The case typically represent the "Hike-Dowry" (or) "Disguised Dowry" in the present Indian Society.

(a) Stake Holders in this case:-



Ethical positions

(a) Me (Amit):- Situation presents an ethical dilemma ~~where~~ which involves:-

- (i) My Inner Conscience which doesn't accept dowry (Vs) My future Rich life -
- (ii) Satisfying my parents (Vs) Upholding the Integrity & Law.

(b) In-laws:-

- (i) Right to give their Money to their daughter (Vs) Giving wrong notion to the future generations.

(c) My parents:-

- (i) Amit (My) life in happiness Vs their Values which are being taught to me from childhood.
- (ii) Poor Economic Background (Vs) Ethical & moral actions.



(b) (1) Accept the gift & go ahead:-

merits:

- 1) leading Happy life
- 2) becoming Rich
- 3) No Harm Explicitly
- 4) My parents will be happy.

de-merits

- 1) Against to the Conscience
- 2) Against to the values that are taught by my parents
- 3) Against Rule of law (Prohibition of Dowry act)

(2) Call off wedding:-

merits:

- 1) Satisfies my inner Conscience.
- 2) I will be happy rather than rich

Demerits

- 1) I may not be that rich
- 2) I may miss a good girl as my wife.

Further options Available for Amit

(3) The options available for Amit can be

\* Amit may persuade his In-laws about the Dowry ill effects. And also talk to the bride about the wrong

Signals one may receive in the society due to this act.

As a responsible citizen to become a future IAS officer, he <sup>has</sup> ~~have~~ to be role-model for many people.

Amit should also convince his parents & also should persuade them about the values that they inculcated to him from childhood.

Legitimate means of earning is always good.

As envisaged by Gandhiji in his "Seven-sins" → "Wealth without work" is one the sins. This is unethical to accept the gift / disguised dowry.

There are many ways to earn money legitimately.

"Means" is absolutely important for an action to be ethical. As envisaged by Immanuel Kant - "Deontology", means of an action is absolutely important.

As Bhagavatgeeta envisages "Dharma Rakshati Rakshitaha", if one upholds Dharma & protect it, it will support & protect us".

An IAS/Civil servant has to be ethical, accountable, transparent.

Thus, Amit may persuade his in-laws & blide, his parents. This act also may increase respect towards him from his wife & Personal life will be better.

"Ethics in Public life are grounded in ethics in Private life"

Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

Structure		Content	
Question Interpretation		<b>Total :</b>	

**Mentor Feedback Questions**

- 1 .....
- 2 .....
- 3 .....
- 4 .....
- 5 .....

**Test Goal**

- 1 *Attempt all Qs*
- 2 *Presentation keep it good*
- 3

**Outcomes**

- .....
- .....
- .....
- .....

**Marking Scheme**

Mark	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
✓✓	Key / Relevant Point		
✗	Vague / Irrelevant		

\* Subject to change without prior notice.