

Time Allowed : Three Hours  
समय : तीन घंटे**ForumIAS**Maximum Marks : 250  
अधिकतम अंक : 250**GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन**

|   |               |   |                                |
|---|---------------|---|--------------------------------|
| Name Of Candidate<br>परीक्षार्थी का नाम | Kaupa A-Jain  |   |                                |
| Roll No./अनुक्रमांक                     | Medium/माध्यम | English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Hindi <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र              | Date/दिनांक   | 20th July 2025                              |                                |

\*Center Code : For Online - 1900 / Delhi : Karol bagh - 1901, ORN - 1902, Mukharji Nagar - 1903 / Patna : Boring Rd. - 2001 / Hyderabad : Jawahar Nagar - 2101

| INDEX TABLE / अनुक्रमणिका  |                          |                              | INSTRUCTION / अनुदेश   |   |                                      |
|--|--------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------------|
| Q. No.<br>प्र.सं.  | Max. Marks<br>अधिकतम अंक | Marks Obtained<br>प्राप्तांक | 1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.<br>कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।   |   |                                      |
| 1  |                          |                              | 2. There are <b>TWELVE</b> questions printed in ENGLISH & HINDI, all questions are compulsory.<br>उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बारह प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।   |   |                                      |
| 2  |                          |                              | 3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.<br>प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।  |   |                                      |
| 3  |                          |                              | 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.<br>उत्तर प्रवेश पत्र में अधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए, जो कि दिए गए स्थान में इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के कवर पर स्पष्ट रूप से लिखा जाना चाहिए। |   |                                      |
| 4  |                          |                              | 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.<br>प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, यदि निर्दिष्ट हो, का पालन किया जाए। प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़े गये किसी भी पृष्ठ या पृष्ठ के भाग को स्पष्ट रूप से काट दें।                   |   |                                      |
| 5  |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
| 6  |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
| 7  |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
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| 10   |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
| 11   |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
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| 17   |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
| 18   |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
| 19   |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
| 20   |                          |                              |  |   |                                      |
| Total/कुल अंक  | 250                      |                              | <b>For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु</b>   |   |                                      |
| Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :   |                          |                              | Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :   | End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :                     |                                      |
|  |                          |                              | 4:30   | 8:05  |                                      |
| Total Marks/कुल अंक :  |                          |                              | Mode Of Examination/<br>परीक्षा की विधि :  | Online/ऑनलाइन <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |                                      |
|  |                          |                              |  | Offline/ऑफलाइन <input type="checkbox"/>           |                                      |
| *Examiner's Discretion is the marks awarded at the discretion of the examiner based on your overall impression, on the basis of (but not limited to) your handwriting, presentation, use of diagrams, flowcharts, facts and figures or absolutely anything that he/she liked in your copy.<br>मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक अंक, आपकी लिखावट, प्रस्तुति, आरेखों के उपयोग, फ्लोचार्ट, तथ्यों और आंकड़ों या समग्र रूप किसी अन्य विषय वस्तु, जो मूल्यांकन कर्ता को आपकी कॉपी में पसंद आयी के आधार पर (लेकिन इन्हीं तक सीमित नहीं) पर दिए गए अंक हैं। |                          |                              | <b>For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु</b>   |   |                                      |
|  |                          |                              | ECN CODE/<br>ईसीएन कोड :   | EG/ईजी :  | Evaluation Date/<br>मूल्यांकन तिथि : |
|  |                          |                              |  | ① ② ③ ④ ⑤   |                                      |

**Note:** Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes, the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the copies of the tests and learn from them. You can also discuss your copy with a Mentor and discover ways and means to improve your answers, or if you have any issues with this test / copy. Ask specific questions, to get specific answers.

1) a) Rising influ  
firmness, and d  
integrity of da

## EXAMINER'S REMARKS

भारतीय  
लोकस

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### CRITERIA FOR THE FEEDBACK SECTION AT THE END OF EACH QUESTION

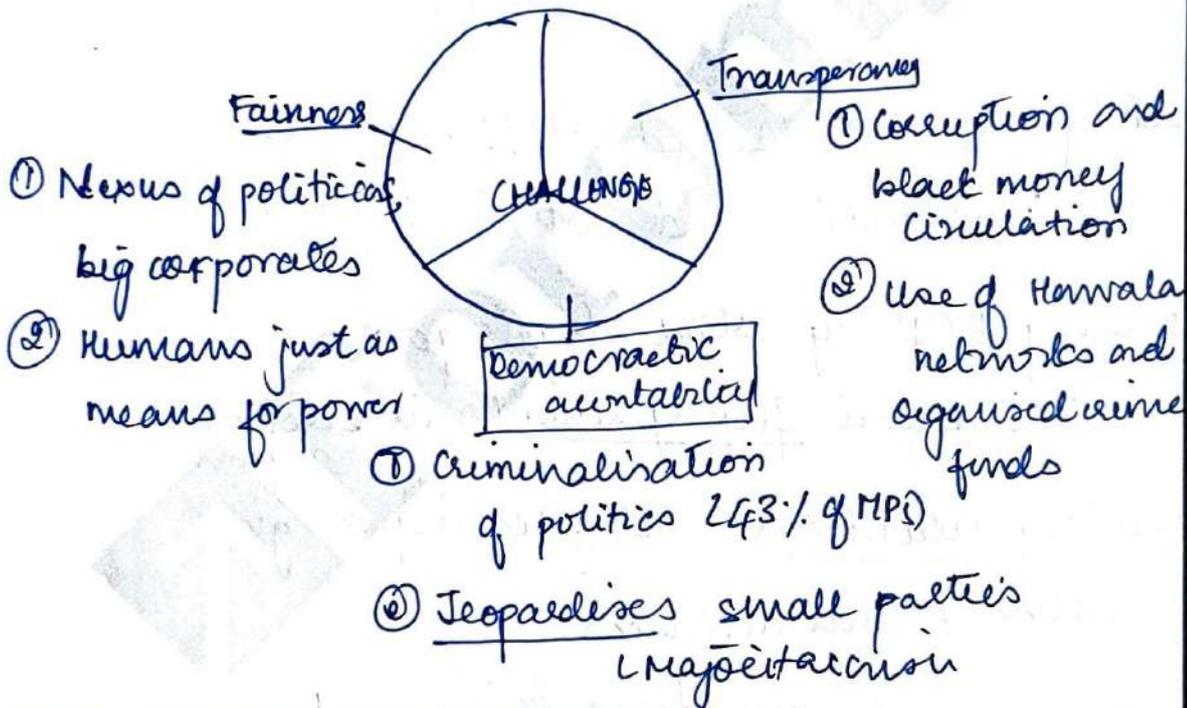
1. **AWIS = Answered What is Asked.** This means whether you have addressed the core demand of the question or not. Addressing the core demand of the question gets you an objectively fair score. It is examiner's perception if you have understood the question and if you know the answer in the first place. Creative answer writing, sometimes missing the core demand, may fetch very high or very low scores, and exposes your answer to the subjectivity of the examiner.
2. **CD & VA = Content Density & Value Addition.** Examiner will evaluate the quality and quantity of your content in the answer. In the same word limit and space limit have you (a) written what is asked (b) gone beyond what is asked (c) enriched answers through combination of ( but not all!) suggestions, ideas, quotes, flowcharts, diagrams, facts and figures, data etc. This affects objective components of assessment.
3. **S & F = Structure & Flow =** Whether you have structured your answer properly or not. Whether the answer has been broken into parts and sub-parts and each part has been addressed appropriately or not. Whether the flow of the answer is maintained. Affects both subjective and objective components of assessment.
4. **P & R =** How your answer performs on the criteria of **presentation, ease of read, clarity and apparent effort** in writing the answer. This affects the subjective components of assessment.

## Section - A

Q.1) a) Rising influence of money power in Indian elections poses a serious challenge to transparency, fairness, and democratic accountability. How can ethical electoral funding be ensured to maintain the integrity of democracy? (10 marks, 150 words)

भारतीय चुनावों में धनबल का बढ़ता प्रभाव पारदर्शिता, निष्पक्षता और लोकतांत्रिक जवाबदेहिता के लिए गंभीर चुनौती है। लोकतांत्रिक सत्यनिष्ठा को बनाए रखने के लिए नैतिक चुनावी निधियन/फंडिंग कैसे सुनिश्चित किया जा सकता है? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Money power influences elections to the extent of buying votes, to influencing people to change their thoughts towards leaders



Ethical electoral funding : Maintaining integrity

① State Funding of Elections (Vinesh Verma committee) for equal opportunity to all parties

(Don't in this पर कुछ Explain the key dim the ethical decision

विकता के उन नर्णय लेने को

- ② End to end digital and transparent funding mechanisms (B) Electoral bonds with less anonymity
- ③ Social accountability : Public disclosure of funds by political candidates
- ④ Strengthening institutions of CVC, Election ED, Commission
- ⑤ Third party auditing of political parties
  - (B) Fund audits and reports to public
- ⑥ Empowering ECI by strict legal powers
  - (B) ECI based flying squads in election region
- ⑦ Community volunteers and policing to give information of such activities
- ⑧ Awareness and sensitive training of politicians to avoid such measures

Ethics in politics necessary as 'politics without principle' is a sin

**Feedback**

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|   | G | A | P |
|---|---|---|---|
| AWIS  |   |   |   |
| CD & VA   |   |   |   |
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| TOTAL MARKS   |   |   |   |

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3) Explain the key dimensions of ethics that influence human behaviour. How do these dimensions shape ethical decision-making in private life? (10 marks, 150 words)

नैतिकता के उन प्रमुख आयामों का वर्णन करें जो मानव व्यवहार को प्रभावित करते हैं। ये आयाम निजी जीवन में नैतिक निर्णय लेने को कैसे आकार देते हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Ethics are moral guidelines and precedents set up to decide right and wrong and conduct one's actions and behaviour accordingly.

Dimensions of ethics that influence human behaviour

① Normative ethics dimension: where norms, rules, laws of society train human behaviour  
 [eg] Not breaking traffic light due to norms set

② Religious dimension of ethics: where due to divinity and fear of god, certain moral precepts are followed [eg] Not committing violence & conduct of tolerance

③ Social dimension of ethics: through socialisation with family, peer group etc.  
 [eg] Behaviour & respect for elders

④ Media dimension: where social influencing through celebrities, role models, etc

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lead to change or shaping of behaviour

## Dimensions shaping ethical decision making

- ① Karudaya and for 'larger good' thinking due to religious principles (eg) charity to NGOs in private life
- ② Minimalism and simplistic life living by learning from leaders (eg) APJ Abdul Kalam's lifestyle inspired many
- ③ Familial values → shapes behaviour
  - ↓ Not Be But You feeling
  - ↓ Respect elders
  - ↓ emotional intelligence
  - ↓ Love and Compassion
  - (eg) Person in joint family learns all above
- ④ Courage, integrity learnt and brought in behaviour by learning from mythology.
  - ↳ Private life decisions → to take risk learnt from Mahabharata stories

These ethics shape our actions, thoughts, behaviours and is all encompassing

(Don't in this) a) "Academic free पर कुछ" ical issues that ar d compromises  
शैक्षणिक स्व संस्थान राज से नैतिक

**Feedback**  
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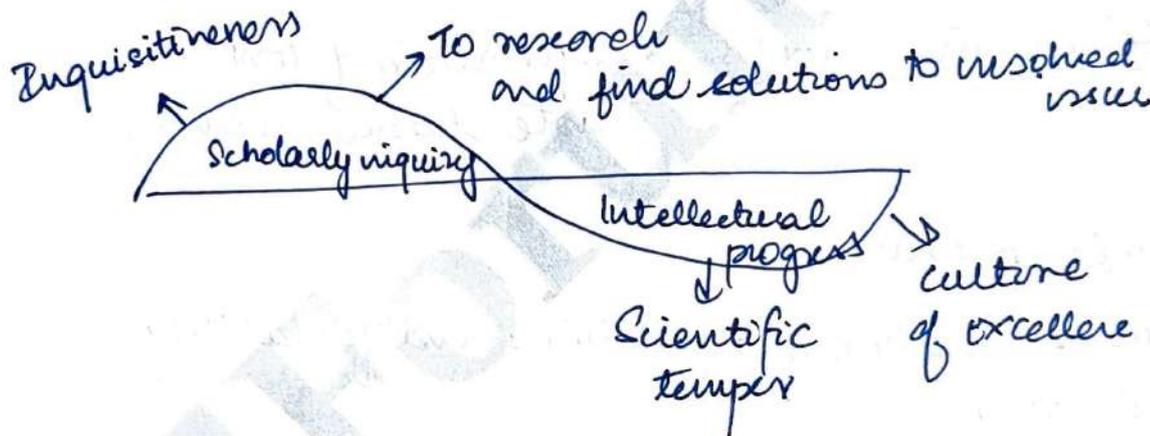
| *   | G | A | P |
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| Please put tick marks in the above table.   |   |   |   |
| Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS                                 |   |   |   |

Q.2) a) "Academic freedom is the bedrock of scholarly inquiry and intellectual progress." Examine the ethical issues that arise when educational institutions yield to political, social, or economic pressures and compromises academic freedom. (10 marks, 150 words)

"शैक्षणिक स्वतंत्रता विद्वतापूर्ण अनुसंधान और बौद्धिक प्रगति की आधारशिला है।" इस बात की जांच करें कि जब शैक्षणिक संस्थान राजनीतिक, सामाजिक या आर्थिक दबावों के आगे झुक जाते हैं और शैक्षणिक स्वतंत्रता से समझौता करते हैं, तो कौन से नैतिक मुद्दे उत्पन्न होते हैं। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

"Education is the weapon that can bring change like no other weapon" Nelson Mandela

Academic freedom is the freedom to think, innovate, imagine, implement, which otherwise seems impossible.



Ethical issues arising from educational institutions

① Due to social pressures

① Marks scoring pressure for schools to achieve progress

② Focus more on completion of course rather than quality education

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(Don't) in this पर कृपया Fortitude enables a civil real-life examples.

दृढता (Fortitude) एक उदाहरणों के समर्थक

③ Focus on infrastructural enhancement due to social pressure of definition of good schools but compromises on checking Teacher effectiveness & Issues children are facing

## II Political pressures:

① Schools concentration in urban areas  
↳ Rural areas left behind - Divide in society

② Casteism in schools → separation of low caste students in school

## III Economic pressures

① Commercialisation of education: Inaffordability of poor

② Digital Divide → rural schools - lack of funds so no smart boards  
→ Urban school - better access

Ethical issues can be solved → Strict common accreditation mechanisms by C  
→ Treating all children equally  
↳ Controlling admission prices  
↳ Avoid political pressures

Education freedom needs critical thinking capabilities of children to be enhanced

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

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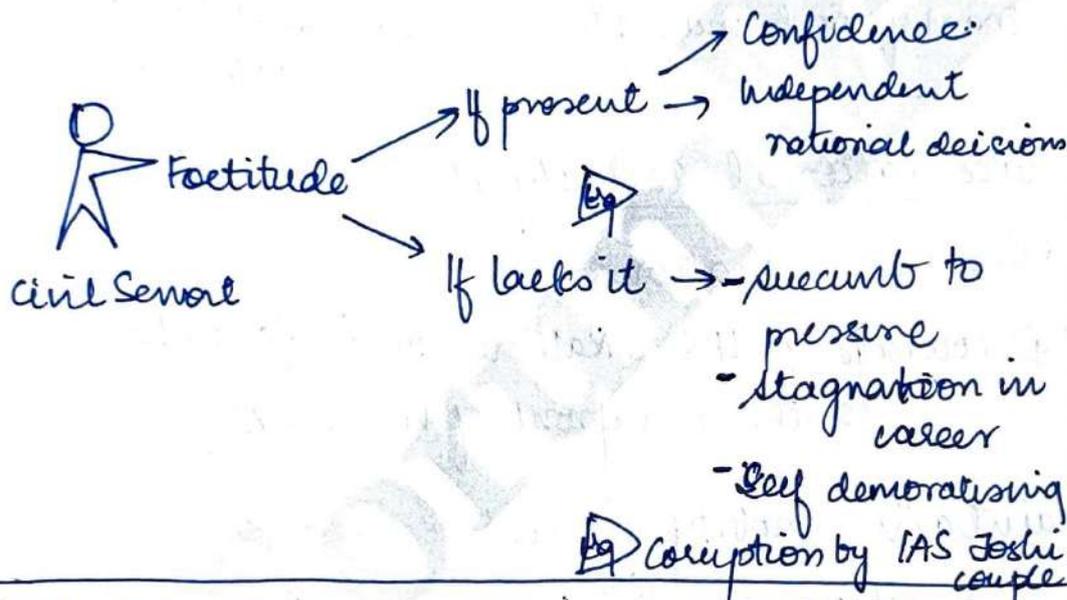
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Fortitude enables a civil servant to make difficult yet morally right decisions. Explain with reference to real-life examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

दृढ़ता (Fortitude) एक सिविल सेवक को कठिन परंतु नैतिक रूप से सही निर्णय लेने में सक्षम बनाता है। वास्तविक जीवन के उदाहरणों के संदर्भ में स्पष्ट कीजिए। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Fortitude is the value to remain upright, honest, integral and consistent in one's decision



Fortitude : enables civil servant for difficult yet morally right decision

- ① To manage stress and take right decisions  
 ↳ IPS D Roopa → exposing VIP treatment in Bangalore prison
- ② Gives confidence to stand for what is Right and work for larger good

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(Don't) in this (A) Given below are the (t) पर कुछ (A) you in the present con  
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- ③ IAS Shakti Dubey went against NHAI report irregularity - got killed
- ④ Gives fearlessness attitude, as no dishonest means used  
 (eg) IAS Ashob Chumbera got transferred multiple times as did not budge to politicians
- ④ Helps take rational and objective decisions in dilemma situations  
 (eg) Courage of IPS CRathore to sing national anthem in front of violent CAA protestors
- ⑤ to maintain probity in civil services and functioning  
 (eg) Going against sand mafia not fearing IAS Durga Shakti Nagpal
- ⑥ Helps remain true to conscience - Stichi Pragya

Fortitude needs to be developed in all

- By learning from brave leaders (Channugan Manjunnathan)
- By maintaining integrity

"Fortitude is not fearlessness but rather triumph of over fear"

**Feedback**  
 (For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
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| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
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| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |

Q.3) Given below are the three quotations of great thinkers. What do each of these quotations convey to you in the present context?

नीचे महान विचारकों के तीन उद्धरण दिए गए हैं। वर्तमान संदर्भ में इनमें से प्रत्येक उद्धरण आपको क्या संदेश देता है?

a) "When learning is purposeful, creativity blossoms. When creativity blossoms, thinking emanates. When thinking emanates, knowledge is fully lit. When knowledge is lit, the economy flourishes." - Abdul Kalam. (10 marks, 150 words)

"जब सीखना उद्देश्यपूर्ण होता है, तो रचनात्मकता खिलती है। जब रचनात्मकता खिलती है, तो चिंतन प्रक्रिया विकसित होती है। जब चिंतन प्रक्रिया विकसित होती है, तो ज्ञान पूरी तरह से प्रकाशित होता है। जब ज्ञान प्रकाशित होता है, तो अर्थव्यवस्था समृद्ध होती है।" - अब्दुल कलाम (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

"Live like you will die tomorrow, learn like you will live forever"  
- MK Gandhi.

Both explain how learning with right purpose and evolving is essential for self and humanity.

When learning is purposeful it develops curiosity, inquisitiveness of questioning the things, it rekindles the thinking part of the brain so creativity blossoms

eg) Stephen Hawking due to his education, & learnings could bring creative → Black Hole & cosmology theories despite being paralysed

When creativity blossoms

with creative and rational minds

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full of ideas, the thinking develops where mind thinks between itself, mind starts to question, answer, counter question and starts thinking and looking for answers

↳ Newton's creative mind → led him think how apple fall had a reason

When thinking blossoms → knowledge is fully lit

Thinking makes us answer Qs and make us aware of varied knowledge due to search of solutions. So knowledge becomes lit.

↳ Theory of gravity was due to thinking of Newton

When knowledge is lot → Economy flourishes

↳ Youth when have adequate all round knowledge and skills contribute better utilisation of demographic dividend & economy growth

So the basic block of learning needs to be placed well by schools, teachers where right critical thinking abilities are given

(Don't) in this the difference between पर कुछ है the world's problem म जो करते हैं ओ गोमा - महासा

### Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

|  | G | A | P |
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| AWIS   |   |   |   |
| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
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| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |

(Don't Write in this Area) / कुछ न लिखें

"The difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing would suffice to solve most of the world's problems." - Mahatma Gandhi (10 marks, 150 words)

"हम जो करते हैं और जो करने में सक्षम हैं, उसके बीच का अंतर विश्व की अधिकांश समस्याओं को हल करने के लिए पर्याप्त होगा।" - महात्मा गाँधी (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

"Knowledge is not enough, we must apply, willingers is not enough, we must act"

The above quote implies how we tend to only accumulate knowledge or act or do things in limited way thru our capacity to do if only one utilises one's capability, the world would have no problems!

The difference between what we do & what we are capable will suffice → to solve world's problems

| <u>What we do</u>                                       | <u>What we can do</u>                          | <u>Solution of problem</u>   |
|---|--|------------------------------|
| ① use plastic and throw away                            | Reuse plastic or use paper bags                | Environmental sustainability |
| ② Individualistic selfish needs seen for profits of own | Giving back to society, a part of what we earn | Solidarity of humanity       |
| ↳ Vaccine Nationalism                                   | - Trusteeship                                  | ↳ Vaccine Maitri by India    |

(Don't in this पर कुछ love and compassi  
म और करुणा

③ Isolation and unaffected by other's problems

Love and compassion for needy

Help uplift poor, not leave anyone hungry

↳ Mother Teresa

④ Capitalist companies work for companies growth

Corporate social Responsibility by contributing some amount

Compassionate Capitalism

and balance of profits & ethics  
some air pollution, traffic problems

⑤ Use of individual cars, vehicles

Use of public transport

⑥ Consumption of social media in a Bubble/Chamber

Responsible use of media - fact check

Resolves False news, Radicalisation

Ability to what we can do can be garnered by

→ Push of youth to work with NGOs, meet people in rural areas  
→ To being value based education

**Feedback**

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|  | G | A | P |
|--|---|---|---|
| AWIS   |   |   |   |
| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
| S & F  |   |   |   |
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| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |

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"Love and compassion are necessities, not luxuries. Without them, humanity cannot survive." - Dalai Lama  
(10 marks, 150 words)

"प्रेम और करुणा आवश्यकताएं हैं, विलासिता नहीं। उनके बिना मानवता जीवित नहीं रह सकती।" - दलाई लामा  
(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Love and compassion are basic values of empathy and spreading happiness to humans. Without them world will fall in splits and will end up fighting with each other.  
Love and Compassion : necessities and not luxury

- ① To build's social and moral fabric in society  
↳ brings together news [eg] Celebration of festivals by all religions
- ② To weed out pain of the poor or vulnerable and promote equality [eg] Mother Teresa, Kailash Satyarthi
- ③ To nurture and give right socialisation and values to children [eg] Love of parents needed, else mental health problem
- ④ To go beyond duty call - Supererogation  
[eg] Collector blo - Compassionate Koshi Kote pgm by Prashant Rai for flood victims

# Forum IAS

(Don't) in this a) What do पर कुछ notation of

शासन में करती है

⑤ To promote peace, harmony and order in society  
eg) IAS Dinya Kumar learn Gondi language to understand tribal problems & communal

Current relevance: how without them humanity diminishing

① Love for power leading to a domino effect and falling of nations

eg) Israel - Palestine - war horrors  
Russia - Ukraine - human right violation

② Race to Bottom by MNCs reducing labour as commodity and as just a means & not ends.

eg) alienation and dehumanisation of informal labour

③ Loss of citizen centrality and taking bureaucratic procedural process has led to unfairness to people

④ Corruption by bureaucrats and high headedness without effective policies for poor

Love and its power through compassion needs to be channelised for greater humanity good

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

|  | G | A | P |
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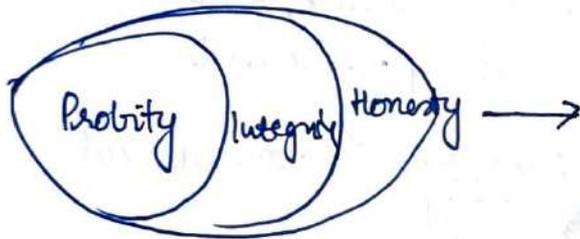
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4) a) What do you understand by the term 'probity in governance'? Explain how probity acts as the foundation of ethical public administration. (10 marks, 150 words)

'शासन में ईमानदारी' शब्द से आप क्या समझते हैं? बताइए कि ईमानदारी किस प्रकार नैतिक लोक प्रशासन की नींव का कार्य करती है। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Probity is the risk management approach to maintain procedural integrity even in adverse situations.

Probity in governance



- No Conflict of Interest
- Ethical governance
- No corruption
- Quality public service delivery

Probity in governance is taking transparent process of governance by remaining upright and taking decisions which are objective, rational and based on Rule of law

Eg E Seedharan → metro building → transparent consultation process, tendering and timely building of metro.

# Forum IAS

Probity: acts as foundation of ethical public administration

- ① Helps make efficient rational decisions  
 [eg] IAS Armstrong Pame → decided for crowdfunding to build road in Manipal
  - ② Promotes citizen empowerment and accountability  
 [eg] Citizen charter, RTI timely addressal
  - ③ Transparency and accountability in governance  
 [eg] Grievance Redressal Mechanism by IAS Sanjay Kumar Alag Mohalla Samiti
  - ④ Helps take courageous decisions for against wrong doing [eg] IAS Ashob Khemba → against any pressures
  - ⑤ Follows dictum of 'Utilitarianism' and Sarvodaya - to reach last man  
 [eg] IAS Tamboli Ayyaj → probity in providing human capital services to tribes
- Probity in governance builds trust of public and maintains effective service delivery to public & well utilisation of public funds

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**Feedback**  
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"Starvation must not be used as a weapon of war." Yet, parties involved in conflicts often resort to the blockade of food and medical aid to civilians in conflict zones, deepening the humanitarian crisis. Powerful nations, despite their capacity to intervene, tend to prioritise strategic interests over humanitarian concerns. What ethical considerations should guide powerful nations in preventing such actions and ensuring unimpeded humanitarian access? (10 marks, 150 words)

"भूखमरी को युद्ध के हथियार के रूप में इस्तेमाल नहीं किया जाना चाहिए।" फिर भी, संघर्षों में शामिल पक्ष अक्सर संघर्ष क्षेत्रों में नागरिकों को भोजन और चिकित्सा सहायता को रोकने का सहारा लेते हैं, जिससे मानवीय संकट गहराता है। शक्तिशाली राष्ट्र हस्तक्षेप करने की अपनी क्षमता के बावजूद, मानवीय चिंताओं पर रणनीतिक हितों को प्राथमिकता देते हैं। शक्तिशाली राष्ट्रों को ऐसी कार्रवाइयों को रोकने और निर्बाध मानवीय पहुँच सुनिश्चित करने में कौनसे नैतिक विचार सहायक हो सकते हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Recent Israel-Palestine war, showed this scenario, where Israel restricted food supplies to Palestinians and USA due to its strategic ties did not speak or act against such human right violation

Restriction of food and medical aid issues

- against cautious categorical imperative of moral absolutism
- Human rights violation → lack of dignified life  
→ lack of basic necessities

Powerful nations : not intervening

- To not speak in act of injustice, words drama - Caution.

Ethical considerations to guide powerful nations

- ① Global citizenship: and equality & justice

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to all humans to live

① 'Humanity For All' as Rabindranath Tagore says irrespective of nation, maintain justness, fairness for all

② Civilians and their rights should remain unimpacted in fight of nations  
↳ Basic rights of food, shelter, medicine should be maintained

③ Persuasion of powerful nations to avoid such unfair measures of restrictions

④ Protecting rights of humans - fundamental ones

⑤ Welfarism - 'Lok-samgraha' should be principle even in war - not 'jeopardise lives

↳ Refugee care & rehabilitation

⑥ 'In a war, there are no victors', so nations should discuss, deliberate rather than fight

'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' - where all world is one and all treated equally

(Don't miss) a) What teachings of Tagore are there in the above passage?  
शुभ्र की कौन सी शिक्षाएँ हैं?

## Feedback

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Q.5) a) What teachings of Mahavira are most relevant today and why? Discuss. (10 marks, 150 words)

महावीर की कौन सी शिक्षाएँ आज सर्वाधिक प्रासंगिक हैं और क्यों? चर्चा करें।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Mahavira, an epitome of peace, non-violence and his teachings still remain relevant even today.

Teachings of Mahavira that are relevant and reasons

① Temperance and self-restraint: Due to rising consumerism and greed, so need to maintain moderation

eg) PV Sindhu - gave up her phone due to distraction before Rio Olympics

② Simple life: Cosmopolitanism has led to adopting lavish lifestyles & aspiring for it, creating inequality in society → so move to 'Less is More'

eg) Moving away from lavish cars → simple public transport, cycles

③ Triratna: Right Thought → conduct → Action for right ends. So today ulterior motives have led to negative thoughts

# ForumIAS

and wrong actions  $\rightarrow$  corruption by bureaucrats

④ Peace and non-violence : In race of power, and global reservoir of contentment not drying, increasing conflict & wars  $\rightarrow$  crisis of humanity  
 $\rightarrow$  Rising conflicts between  $\rightarrow$  Global North  $\rightarrow$  Global South

⑤ Truth and Honesty : Important as people today tend to lie to escape answering  
 $\rightarrow$  Oath of secrecy of politicians

⑥ Compassionate to poor and help needy  
As capitalists usurping lands of tribes, poor

Some teachings donot hold full values as brahmacharya not followed by people, and family provides socialisation values.

Maharishi's teachings are guiding light to solve individual's & world's problem

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समका अभि

### Feedback (For OFFICE use only)

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Q) "In contemporary times, social media platforms have emerged as powerful agents in shaping individual and societal attitudes." Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer.

(10 marks, 150 words)

"समकालीन समय में, सोशल मीडिया प्लेटफॉर्म व्यक्तिगत और सामाजिक दृष्टिकोण को आकार देने में शक्तिशाली अभिकारक के रूप में उभरे हैं।" क्या आप इस दृष्टिकोण से सहमत हैं? अपने उत्तर का औचित्य स्पष्ट कीजिए।

(10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Social Media is the new platform where society connects virtually today foregoing the physical meetings and celebrations.

↳ Group video calls on whatsapp etc.

They are powerful agents in shaping individuals and society attitude

- ① Social media → Influence on one's choice of clothes, music ↳ youth today listening to rap, pop music - reels
- ② Echo chambers : Manipulates individuals in limited space ↳ Political vote manipulation ↳ Cambridge analytica
- ③ Communalism in society : By spreading hate on social media ↳ Muzzaferpur riots
- ④ Westoxification of society : by westernisation on social media ↳ Global dresses, suits - Indians adapt

# ForumIAS

(Don't in this) a) What do en to the VC

अंतर प्राप्त कर सकते हैं

- ⑤ Removing social stigma for LGBTQ+ and normalising ~~the~~ identities.
  - ⑥ Social proofing by social media: where due to peer pressure - our attitudes change
    - ↳ Seeing friends going for abroad trip - we force ourselves to
  - ⑦ Celebrities and influence from them on social media
    - ↳ Alia Bhatt - her movies influence
    - ↳ Some good - compassionate values
  - ⑧ Individualistic & Isolations in due to social media
    - ↳ Dual identity → media / self ] mental health problem
- However media - not completely shape attitudes
- ① Families and roles of people. still important for attitude
  - ② Societal norms based on tradition rather influence social media
    - ↳ Festivals celebration by social media groups
    - ↳ attitude is little thing that matters the most, so it needs to be right!

### Feedback

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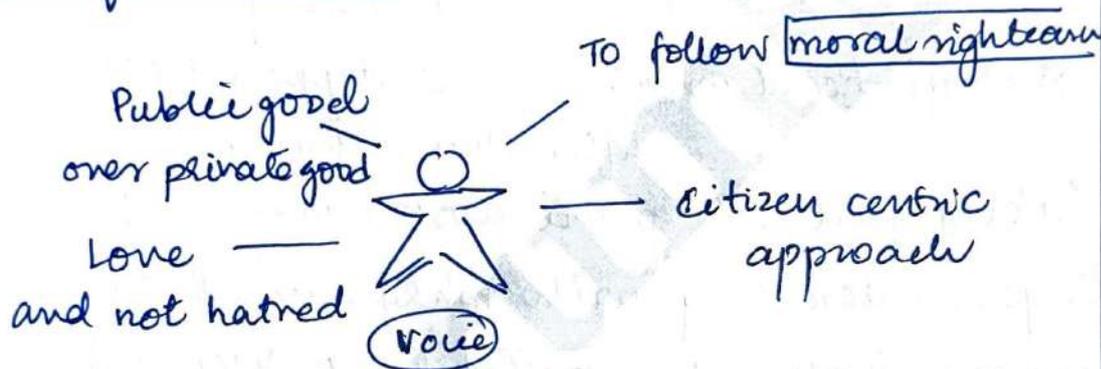
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Q.6) a) What do you understand by the 'voice of conscience'? In what ways can you prepare yourself to listen to the voice of conscience? (10 marks, 150 words)

आप 'अंतरात्मा की आवाज़' से क्या समझते हैं? अंतरात्मा की आवाज़ सुनने के लिए आप खुद को किन तरीकों से तैयार कर सकते हैं? (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Conscience is the inner voice which guides one while taking decisions to take righteous step.

## Voice of conscience



Voice is the one that guides to do right thing and to follow ethical moralism. It restricts negative ideals and helps moral victory.

↳ Voice of conscience for Bhalata in Ramayana called him to not take kingship as Ram is true deservor.

## ways to prepare to listen to voice of conscience

① Practising mindfulness, self introspection

(Don't miss) Effective utilisation of  
responsibility of those  
government schemes  
across the country  
their implications

सार्वजनिक नि  
शैक्षिक उपाय  
किए जाते  
उनके

through Yoga, meditation → to know self

② To learn impact of each step and take steps

Larger good  
 - self good  
 ↳ Smaller good

③ By shuning opinions of head and deciding based on merits of case, objectively

↳ Gandhiji - heard conscience and stopped NCM after Chauri Chaura

④ By taking part in ground work - visiting villages, interacting with marginalised to know the value of morals

↳ Dr V Reddy IAS

⑤ Leading by example and setting right precedent

↳ APJ Abdul Kalam

⑥ By analysing one's strength and weakness and working on weaknesses to avoid any wrong decision

↳ "The voice of conscience goes far and beyond the 'voice of court' and helps effective decisions in one's life"

**Feedback**

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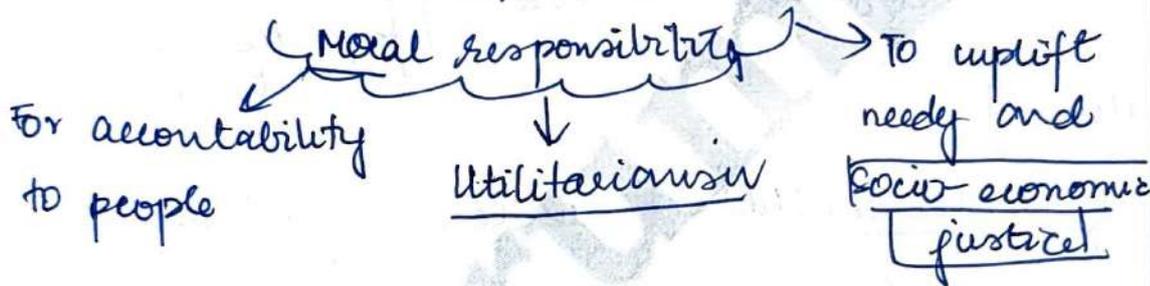
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b) Effective utilisation of public funds is not merely an administrative requirement but a moral responsibility of those entrusted with public office. However, instances of funds allocated to government schemes lying idle or being diverted towards extraneous purposes continue to be reported across the country. Examine the reasons for under-utilization and mis-utilization of public funds and their implications. (10 marks, 150 words)

सार्वजनिक निधियों का प्रभावी उपयोग केवल प्रशासनिक आवश्यकता नहीं है, बल्कि सार्वजनिक पद पर आसीन व्यक्तियों का नैतिक उत्तरदायित्व भी है। हालांकि, सरकारी योजनाओं के लिए आवंटित धन के व्यर्थ पड़े रहने या उद्देश्यों के इतर उपयोग किए जाने के मामले पूरे देश में सामने आते रहते हैं। सार्वजनिक निधियों के अल्प उपयोग और दुरुपयोग के कारणों और उनके निहितार्थों का परीक्षण करें। (10 अंक, 150 शब्द)

Effective utilisation of funds is equitable  
 effective distribution of funds by maintaining  
 public trust and appropriateness.



Reasons for under-utilisation and misutilisation

- ① Rigidity of administration : Red Taperism
  - ↳ land acquisition in UP requires minimum 1.5 years for any project - so funds underutilised
- ② Corruption and misuse of funds : Due to
  - ↳ lack of transparency in allocation
  - ↳ Nepotism & favoritism in tender process

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- ③ Vacancy of institutions; so ineffective use of funds
- ④ lack of power to use funds for some bodies so ~~not~~ under utilised eg NIPABHAYA Fund not utilised
- ⑤ Once funding in a dept leads to underutilisation
- ⑥ lack of accountability or checks & balances  
↳ misutilisation → not checked by CVC  
↳ public RTI not addressed

Implications

- ① loss of public confidence: undemocratic step
- ② Unfair, unjust to the vulnerable section  
↳ poor only receive ₹0.17 when ₹1 disbursed due to corruption
- ③ Public apathy - Chalta Hai attitude → succumb to corruption
- ④ Sanskritisation of corruption for subordinates as no transparent checks
- ⑤ Public services are not met → Social Contract Theory falsified

- Need is to
- ① Digital fund disbursement process
  - ② Public budgeting and auditing
  - ③ Disclosure of fund usage & utilisation

**Feedback**  
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**Section - B**

**Q.7)** A rail overbridge (ROB) is being planned in the capital city of a central Indian state. The project aims to reduce traffic congestion and ease delays at railway crossings, which affect thousands of daily commuters. It had been a long-standing demand of local residents, and the government approved it to address persistent traffic bottlenecks in the area. The project is to be executed by the State Public Works Department (PWD), with a strict completion deadline of one year i.e. 31st July 2026. The PWD Minister, who is also the local MLA, is scheduled to inaugurate the project in the third week of August 2026. This is planned to take place shortly before the expected announcement of state elections. Ramesh has been selected as the project manager of this prestigious assignment on the basis of his professional competence and experience.

While reviewing the approved design plans in preparation for execution, Ramesh identifies a serious flaw. The proposed alignment includes a sharp 90-degree turn, incorporated due to spatial constraints between an electrified railway line on one side and ongoing metro construction on the other. From a technical standpoint, Ramesh believes the design is unsafe. It increases the risk of vehicular accidents, especially for heavy vehicles, and may lead to long-term inconvenience for road users.

Ramesh promptly raises the issue with the Chief Engineer. However, the Chief Engineer overrules the concern. He states that the General Arrangement Drawing (GAD) has already been approved by the Bridge Engineering Department, in coordination with Indian Railways. He points out that revisiting the design at this stage shall result in project delays, increased expenditure, and unwanted political attention.

Subsequently, Ramesh comes to know that the contractor awarded the tender to execute the project is a close relative of the PWD Minister. He also receives unofficial communication suggesting that his promotion to Additional Chief Engineer is under active consideration, but could be jeopardised if he creates "unnecessary hurdles" in the project's timely completion.

The incumbent state government is eager to complete the overbridge before the elections and present it as a major developmental achievement. This adds to the pressure on Ramesh to expedite project execution without raising further objections. Nonetheless, he remains convinced that the current design is flawed and could have grave implications for public safety if left unaddressed.

Meanwhile, the bridge design has also attracted widespread public attention after being published in a leading local newspaper. Images of the sharp 90-degree turn went viral on social media, drawing criticism and ridicule. Several engineering experts have publicly flagged the alignment as a potential safety hazard, reinforcing Ramesh's concerns.

- Under the given conditions, what are the options available to Ramesh as a project manager?
- What are the ethical dilemmas being faced by Ramesh?
- What are the professional challenges likely to be faced by Ramesh and his response to overcome such challenges? (20 marks, 250 words)

मध्य भारत के एक राज्य की राजधानी में एक रेल ओवरब्रिज (ROB) की योजना बनाई जा रही है। इस परियोजना का उद्देश्य यातायात के संकुलन को कम करना और रेलवे क्रॉसिंग पर देरी को कम करना है, जो हजारों यात्रियों को दैनिक रूप से प्रभावित करता है। यह स्थानीय निवासियों की लंबे समय से चली आ रही मांग थी, और सरकार ने क्षेत्र में लगातार यातायात की बाधाओं को दूर करने के लिए इसे मंजूरी दे दी। इस परियोजना को राज्य लोक निर्माण विभाग (PWD) द्वारा निष्पादित किया जाना है, जिसकी सख्त समय सीमा एक वर्ष यानी 31 जुलाई 2026 है। PWD मंत्री, जो स्थानीय विधायक भी हैं, अगस्त 2026 के तीसरे सप्ताह में इस परियोजना का उद्घाटन करने वाले हैं। यह राज्य चुनावों की अपेक्षित घोषणा से कुछ समय पहले होने

की योजना है। रमेश को उनकी पेशेवर क्षमता और अनुभव के आधार पर इस कार्य के प्रोजेक्ट मैनेजर के रूप में चुना गया है।

निष्पादन की तैयारी में स्वीकृत डिज़ाइन योजनाओं की समीक्षा करते समय, रमेश एक गंभीर दोष की पहचान करते हैं। प्रस्तावित संरेखण में एक तीव्र 90-डिग्री मोड़ शामिल है, जो एक तरफ विद्युतीकृत रेलवे लाइन और दूसरी तरफ चल रहे मेट्रो निर्माण के बीच स्थानिक बाधाओं के कारण शामिल किया गया है। तकनीकी दृष्टिकोण से, रमेश का मानना है कि डिज़ाइन असुरक्षित है। इससे वाहन दुर्घटनाओं का जोखिम बढ़ जाता है, खासकर भारी वाहनों के लिए, और सड़क उपयोगकर्ताओं के लिए दीर्घकालिक असुविधा हो सकती है।

रमेश ने तुरंत मुख्य अभियंता के समक्ष इस मुद्दे को उठाया। हालांकि, मुख्य अभियंता ने चिंता को खारिज कर दिया। उन्होंने कहा कि भारतीय रेलवे के समन्वय में ब्रिज इंजीनियरिंग विभाग द्वारा जनरल अरेंजमेंट ड्राइंग (GAD) को पहले ही मंजूरी दे दी गई है। उन्होंने बताया कि इस स्तर पर डिज़ाइन पर दोबारा विचार करने से परियोजना में देरी होगी, खर्च बढ़ेगा और अवांछित राजनीतिक ध्यान आकर्षित होगा।

इसके बाद, रमेश को पता चलता है कि जिस ठेकेदार को परियोजना को पूरा करने का टेंडर दिया गया है, वह पीडब्ल्यूडी मंत्री का करीबी रिश्तेदार है। उसे अनौपचारिक संदेश भी मिलता है जिसमें कहा गया है कि अतिरिक्त मुख्य अभियंता के पद पर उसकी पदोन्नति पर सक्रिय रूप से विचार किया जा रहा है, लेकिन अगर वह परियोजना के समय पर पूरा होने में "अनावश्यक बाधाएं" पैदा करता है तो उसकी पदोन्नति खतरे में पड़ सकती है।

मौजूदा राज्य सरकार चुनावों से पहले ओवरब्रिज का निर्माण पूरा करने और इसे एक बड़ी विकासात्मक उपलब्धि के रूप में प्रस्तुत करने के लिए उत्सुक है। इससे रमेश पर बिना किसी और आपत्ति के परियोजना के निष्पादन में तेजी लाने का दबाव बढ़ जाता है। फिर भी, उनका मानना है कि मौजूदा डिज़ाइन में खामियाँ हैं और अगर इस पर ध्यान नहीं दिया गया तो इससे सार्वजनिक सुरक्षा पर गंभीर असर पड़ सकता है।

इस बीच, एक प्रमुख स्थानीय समाचार पत्र में प्रकाशित होने के बाद पुल के डिज़ाइन ने भी व्यापक रूप से लोगों का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है। 90 डिग्री के तीव्र मोड़ की तस्वीरें सोशल मीडिया पर वायरल हो गईं, जिससे आलोचना और उपहास का सामना करना पड़ा। कई इंजीनियरिंग विशेषज्ञों ने सार्वजनिक रूप से संरेखण को संभावित सुरक्षा खतरे के रूप में चिह्नित किया है, जिससे रमेश की चिंताएँ और भी पुष्ट होती हैं।

- दी गई परिस्थितियों में, एक परियोजना प्रबंधक के रूप में रमेश के पास क्या विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?
- रमेश को किन नैतिक दुविधाओं का सामना करना पड़ रहा है?
- रमेश को किन व्यावसायिक चुनौतियों का सामना करना पड़ सकता है तथा ऐसी चुनौतियों पर नियंत्रण पाने के लिए उसकी क्या प्रतिक्रिया होनी चाहिये?

(20 अंक, 250 शब्द)

The current scenario clearly depicts how recent infrastructural developments are tagging efficient detailed reports of designs and how such projects are acting as "political ways" of defining their contribution.

**My stance** : Start with doing what is right  
then doing what is acceptable

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## a) Options available to Ramish as Project Manager

| Options   | Merits  | Demerits  |
|---|---|---|
| ① To remain quiet and allow inauguration timely                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Promotion guaranteed</li> <li>- Reputation of politician upheld</li> </ul>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public safety hampered (Art 2D)</li> <li>- Jeopardises lives</li> <li>- Moral cognitive dissonance</li> </ul>  |
| ② To report to the higher authorities about mis-design                      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public safety not hampered</li> <li>- Procedural correctness</li> <li>- Duty upheld</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Delay projects</li> <li>- Might have political pressure</li> </ul>   |
| ③ To leak project reports to media, showing whose faults - without his name | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Accountability to people</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Threats from politicians</li> <li>- Wastage of expenditure</li> <li>- Delay in project inauguration</li> </ul> |
| ④ By resigning from such position   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- NO risk to job or reputation</li> </ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Public lives still at stake</li> <li>- Safety hazard</li> </ul>  |



Prote  
①  
②

## (b) Ethical dilemmas by Ramesh

① Personal security vs Public security

↳ Doing his own job & promotion or to speak against public safety

② Holding accountability upwards vs downwards  
ie, listening to chief engineer or to public concern

③ Remaining honest and using ethical competences  
or to remain honest to politicians

④ Protecting fundamental rights of people  
or ~~past~~ rights of himself/senior

⑤ Remaining integral or partisanship with political leaders

⑥ Ignorance of issue or upheld 'conscience'

⑦ Kroner Doer split (D Saraswati) issue  
where he knows what he has to do  
but still confused due to pressure

(Don't Write anything  
in this Area / इस स्थान  
पर कुछ न लिखें)

- Q1) Professional challenges faced by Ramesh
- ① Seniors going against him in enquiry
  - ② Not following Rule of law and his duty.
  - ③ Not adjudicating his role of project manager with competence
  - ④ Expenditure problems as funds already used in project so if problem told then no new funds
  - ⑤ Promotion jeopardised and career blockage if he whistleblowers
  - ⑥ Transfer of Ramesh if doesnot listen to politician
  - ⑦ Lack of transparency and accountability to people as project tender wasnot fairly done
  - ⑧ Difficulty in finding solution as limited space & constraints

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
|--|---|---|---|
| AWIS   |   |   |   |
| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
| S & F  |   |   |   |
| P & R  |   |   |   |
| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |

Response of Ramash to overcome challenges

- ① Do baseline investigation into Detailed Project Reports → to understand why this design chosen
- ② check for alternatives to this design that can be done, with minimum damage and funds
- ③ Taking senior into confidence to work out a plan by extra labour before 2026
- ④ Persuading politicians by telling how people criticising this bridge → for funds  
→ to allow for new approach
- ⑤ Short term step - for adequate fencing, ad speed rules on bridge to avoid any mishap

Right designs needed to avoid public safety harmed as "service of Jira is service to Shina"



**Q.8)** Srushti is a young and dynamic IPS officer, posted as Assistant Superintendent of Police (ASP) in a communally sensitive district. Her husband, Arjun, is an IAS officer and posted as Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) in the same district. Both are honest, sincere and deeply committed to their work. They have a daughter who is just four months old, and is looked after by a domestic helper. Srushti resumed duty just two weeks ago after six months of maternity leave.

At 9 PM on Saturday night, Srushti is in her office reviewing the security arrangements with her team for an upcoming local festival. The situation in the area has been tense throughout the week due to a flare-up between two communities over a petty issue. Around 9:30 PM, she gets a call from the Superintendent of Police. He asks her to prepare a detailed law and order brief for a high-level meeting the next morning.

Srushti reaches home at 10 PM, feeling exhausted. She has not been getting proper sleep during the week due to frequent night patrolling. Arjun also returns around the same time after a long day in the field. Their daughter has been unwell and cried through most of the previous night. Arjun expresses concern about Srushti's heavy workload and the baby's condition. He tells her that she can not keep pushing herself like this and that the child needs more of her attention. Srushti replies that she cannot afford to step back. She adds that people are already judging her and questioning her commitment to work for availing maternity leave. The conversation gradually turns into an argument. Arjun feels Srushti is ignoring her health and family, while Srushti feels judged and unsupported.

Later that night, as Srushti sits at her desk preparing the report, she pauses and reflects on the purpose of her work. She had joined the IPS to serve the people and protect the vulnerable. But now, she wonders if she is being fair to her own child and family. Even as recently as last week, she had to cancel the family dinner as she had to attend an urgent meeting at the SP office. She also feels the weight of expectations. Male officers with children are rarely questioned. But as a new mother, she is constantly under scrutiny. Many in the department believe that women, especially new mothers, are not suitable for field duty.

Srushti starts thinking about her options. She knows that whatever decision she makes will not only impact her own future but also influence the expectations placed on other working mothers in uniform.

- What are the ethical issues involved in the above case?
- Evaluate the options available to Srushti in the above situation.
- What suggestions would you make to help officers like Srushti maintain a healthy work-life balance.

(20 marks, 250 words)

सृष्टि एक युवा और ऊर्जावान आईपीएस अधिकारी हैं, जो सांप्रदायिक रूप से संवेदनशील जिले में सहायक पुलिस अधीक्षक (ASP) के पद पर तैनात हैं। उनके पति अर्जुन एक आईएएस अधिकारी हैं और उसी जिले में उप-विभागीय मजिस्ट्रेट (SDM) के पद पर तैनात हैं। दोनों ही ईमानदार, निष्ठावान और अपने कार्य के प्रति पूरी तरह समर्पित हैं। उनकी एक बेटी है जो अभी चार महीने की है और उसकी देखभाल एक घरेलू सहायिका करती है। सृष्टि ने छह महीने की मातृत्व अवकाश के बाद दो सप्ताह पहले ही ड्यूटी फिर से शुरू की है।

शनिवार रात 9 बजे सृष्टि अपने कार्यालय में अपनी टीम के साथ आगामी स्थानीय त्यौहार के लिए सुरक्षा व्यवस्था की समीक्षा कर रही थी। एक छोटी सी बात पर दो समुदायों के बीच झगड़े के कारण पूरे सप्ताह क्षेत्र में स्थिति तनावपूर्ण रही। रात करीब 9:30 बजे उसे पुलिस अधीक्षक का फोन आता है। वह उसे अगली सुबह एक उच्च स्तरीय बैठक के लिए विस्तृत कानून व्यवस्था तैयार करने के लिए कहते हैं।

सृष्टि रात 10 बजे घर पहुँचती है, उसे बहुत थकान महसूस होती है। रात में लगातार गश्त करने के कारण वह पूरे सप्ताह ठीक से सो नहीं पाती है। अर्जुन भी क्षेत्र में एक लंबा दिन बिताने के बाद लगभग उसी समय लौटता है। उनकी बेटी की तबीयत खराब थी और वह पिछली रात ज्यादातर समय रोती रही। अर्जुन सृष्टि के भारी कार्यभार और बच्चे की स्थिति के बारे में चिंता

(Don't) in this पर करे करता है। वह उससे जवाब दे सकता है। सृष्टि जवाब दे-धीरे बहस में बदल रही खुद को आकलित उस रात बाद में किया। वह लोग रहा है कि उसे क्योंकि उसे पुरुष अधिकारों विभक्त सृष्टि म

व्यक्त करता है। वह उससे कहता है कि वह खुद को इस तरह से नहीं रख सकती और बच्चे को उसके अधिक ध्यान की आवश्यकता है। सृष्टि जवाब देती है कि वह पीछे हटने का जोखिम नहीं उठा सकती। वह कहती है कि लोग पहले से ही उसका आकलन रहे हैं और मातृत्व अवकाश लेने के लिए काम करने की उसकी प्रतिबद्धता पर सवाल उठा रहे हैं। बातचीत धीरे-धीरे बहस में बदल जाती है। अर्जुन को लगता है कि सृष्टि उसके स्वास्थ्य और परिवार को नजरअंदाज कर रही है, जबकि सृष्टि खुद को आकलित और असमर्थ महसूस करती है।

उस रात बाद में, जब सृष्टि अपनी डेस्क पर रिपोर्ट तैयार करने बैठी थी, तो वह रुकी और अपने काम के उद्देश्य पर विचार किया। वह लोगों की सेवा करने और कमज़ोर लोगों की रक्षा करने के लिए IPS में शामिल हुई थी। लेकिन अब, उसे आश्चर्य हो रहा है कि क्या वह अपने बच्चे और परिवार के साथ न्याय कर रही है। पिछले हफ़्ते भी उसे पारिवारिक भोजन रद्द करना पड़ा क्योंकि उसे SP कार्यालय में एक ज़रूरी मीटिंग में शामिल होना था। वह अपेक्षाओं का बोझ भी महसूस करती है। बच्चों वाले पुरुष अधिकारियों से शायद ही कभी पूछताछ की जाती है। लेकिन एक नई माँ के रूप में, वह लगातार जांच के दायरे में रहती है। विभाग में कई लोग मानते हैं कि महिलाएँ, खासकर नई माँएँ, फ़्रील्ड ड्यूटी के लिए उपयुक्त नहीं हैं।

सृष्टि अपने विकल्पों के बारे में सोचना शुरू कर देती है। वह जानती है कि वह जो भी निर्णय लेगी, उसका न केवल उसके भविष्य पर असर पड़ेगा, बल्कि वर्दी में काम करने वाली अन्य माताओं की अपेक्षाओं पर भी असर पड़ेगा।

- उपर्युक्त मामले में नैतिक मुद्दे क्या हैं?
- उपरोक्त स्थिति में सृष्टि के लिए उपलब्ध विकल्पों का मूल्यांकन करें।
- सृष्टि जैसे अधिकारियों को स्वस्थ कार्य-जीवन संतुलन बनाए रखने में मदद करने के लिए आप क्या सुझाव देंगे?

(20 अंक, 250 शब्द)

women in uniform often face patriarchal issues where they are not respected equally, not given equal chance, their strength is considered low. all this leads to perpetuation of male-female disparity in administration.

## Ethical issues in case

- ① shorts : ① Lack of work-life balance
- ② Not giving child care, family time  
↳ Missing motherly care
- ③ Proving too hard to not feel judged as she took maternity leave

# ForumIAS

④ Pressurising herself of all responsibilities  
 ⇒ Mental health issue

↳ to work in office  
 ↳ to work at home

① Dujin

- ① Patriarchal mindset → he does not consider child's responsibility equally
- ② Not being supportive and understanding Shreya

② Department and society at large

- ① weight of child bearing to women
- ② Questioning capability of women in uniform
- ③ Dual career families → issues of child (drew)

Dual Burden

(b) Options available to Shreya <sup>not having adequate care</sup>

| Options  | Merits  | Demerits   |
|--|---|--|
| ① To remain true to her duty as IPS as longer lives at stake # | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Social contract theory - <u>Lockes</u> upheld</li> <li>- Helps maintain peace in district while festivals</li> <li>- Follow her passion</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- unfair to own child</li> <li>- Ignorance of her health</li> </ul> |

② To see from take in

(Don't Write in this Area पर कुछ न लिखें)

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p>② To resign from job and take care of child importantly</p>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- will help in healthy growing child &amp; mother</li> <li>- will help support her husband</li> </ul>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Patriarchy strengthens</li> <li>- Loss of passion from life</li> </ul> |
| <p>③ By discussing with senior about situation and maintaining fixed timing of work till initial child's years</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- work-life balance</li> <li>- More productive work time so that work is finished</li> <li>- Child care done</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Capability of working mother questioned</li> </ul>                     |

C1 Suggestions to officers like Shanti

① Hybrid work style: Take online meetings and address police constables over calls for maintenance

② To distribute responsibility between both husband and wife  
 ↓  
 Weekly days divided      household chores divided

# ForumIAS

(Don't miss this) A reputed Indian...  
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- ① By fixing work hours limited except in case of emergency.
- ② To address issues to services to reduce workload or divide it
- ③ By infrastructural support at workplaces  
 ↓  
 creche facilities for babies in offices.
- ④ Taking some days off to self heal and self reflect and not overdo
- ⑤ To take belief and faith in self - of CAN DO and not accepting failure
- ⑥ By doing smart work thru and not judging self
- ⑦ Sensitise men enough in the department to base their judgements not on gender but capability.

'Nari Shakti, is Rashtra Samridhi'

so women in uniform are protectors of nation!

**Feedback**  
 (For OFFICE use only)

|         | G | A | P |
|---------|---|---|---|
| AWIS    |   |   |   |
| CD & VA |   |   |   |
| S & F   |   |   |   |
| P & R   |   |   |   |

Please put tick marks in the above table.  
 Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| TOTAL MARKS |  |
|-------------|--|

**Q.9)** A reputed Indian beauty & personal care company developed a herbal skin cream for the international market, claiming anti-ageing and skin-repair properties based on traditional Ayurvedic formulations. After obtaining the necessary approvals and export certifications, the company began exporting the product. The product received widespread positive feedback for its quality and natural formulation, and soon became a huge hit in international markets. Riding on this success, the company announced that the product would soon be made available to domestic consumers, with almost the same quality and health benefits.

Subsequently, it secured approval from the domestic regulatory authority and launched the product in the Indian market. Over time, the brand gained a significant share of the domestic market and earned substantial revenues both nationally and internationally.

However, during a random sample check, officials discovered that the cream sold in India differed from the version approved by the competent authority. The product failed to meet the claimed herbal composition and purity standards. Further investigation revealed that the company had often been distributing batches that had failed export quality checks.

The incident triggered widespread public criticism and regulatory scrutiny, leading to a sharp decline in the company's reputation and financial performance.

- Discuss the ethical issues involved in the case.
  - What actions should the competent regulatory authority take against the personal care company for violating domestic quality standards and distributing rejected export batches in the Indian market?
  - What course of action is available to the company to manage the crisis and restore public trust and brand credibility?
- (20 marks, 250 words)

एक प्रतिष्ठित भारतीय सौंदर्य और व्यक्तिगत देखभाल कंपनी ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजार के लिए एक हर्बल त्वचा क्रीम विकसित की, जिसमें पारंपरिक आयुर्वेदिक फॉर्मूलेशन के आधार पर एंटी-एजिंग और त्वचा की मरम्मत के गुणों का दावा किया गया। आवश्यक अनुमोदन और निर्यात प्रमाणपत्र प्राप्त करने के बाद, कंपनी ने उत्पाद का निर्यात करना शुरू कर दिया। उत्पाद को इसकी गुणवत्ता और प्राकृतिक फॉर्मूलेशन के लिए व्यापक सकारात्मक प्रतिक्रिया मिली, और जल्द ही अंतरराष्ट्रीय बाजारों में एक बड़ी हिट बन गई। इस सफलता पर सवार होकर, कंपनी ने घोषणा की कि उत्पाद जल्द ही घरेलू उपभोक्ताओं के लिए उपलब्ध कराया जाएगा, जिसमें लगभग समान गुणवत्ता और स्वास्थ्य लाभ होंगे।

इसके बाद, इसने घरेलू विनियामक प्राधिकरण से मंजूरी हासिल की और उत्पाद को भारतीय बाजार में लॉन्च किया। समय के साथ, ब्रांड ने घरेलू बाजार में महत्वपूर्ण हिस्सेदारी हासिल कर ली और राष्ट्रीय और अंतरराष्ट्रीय स्तर पर पर्याप्त राजस्व अर्जित किया।

हालांकि, एक यादृच्छिक प्रतिदर्श परीक्षण के दौरान, अधिकारियों ने पाया कि भारत में बेची जाने वाली क्रीम सक्षम प्राधिकारी द्वारा अनुमोदित संस्करण से भिन्न थी। उत्पाद दावा किए गए हर्बल संरचना और शुद्धता मानकों को पूरा करने में विफल रहा। आगे की जांच से पता चला कि कंपनी अक्सर ऐसे बैच वितरित कर रही थी जो निर्यात गुणवत्ता जांच में विफल रहे थे।

इस घटना के कारण व्यापक सार्वजनिक आलोचना और विनियामक जांच शुरू हो गई, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप कंपनी की प्रतिष्ठा और वित्तीय प्रदर्शन में भारी गिरावट आई।

- मामले में शामिल नैतिक मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें।
  - घरेलू गुणवत्ता मानकों का उल्लंघन करने और अस्वीकृत निर्यात बैचों को भारतीय बाजार में वितरित करने के लिए सक्षम विनियामक प्राधिकरण को व्यक्तिगत देखभाल कंपनी के खिलाफ क्या कार्रवाई करनी चाहिए?
  - संकट का प्रबंधन करने तथा जनता का विश्वास और ब्रांड विश्वसनीयता बहाल करने के लिए कंपनी के पास क्या विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?
- (20 अंक, 250 शब्द)



Various businesses and companies today in competition to grow have led to ficklemindedness where profits and money is all that matters and people-centrism is lost

↳ Frauds by companies like Johnson & Johnson  
- Ranbaxy

My stance : "Business without morality" is a sin - Gandhi

## (a) Ethical issues

- ① Greed acted as gateway to loss, this loss is greater than profits earned so long
- ② People used as 'mere means' and no dignity of life (Art 21)  
↳ Against Kantian Deontology
- ③ Illegal methods used to jeopardise life of people
- ④ Lack of loyalty and allegiance to domestic people and misleading them

⑤ Bias towards international and national markets → Unfair market practice

⑥ Sufficient periodic monitoring & scrutiny of such products → Institutional failure

⑦ Economic profits seen over and above justice

(b) Actions needed to be taken by competent authority

① Investigations and quality checks of its products in markets - Analysis

② Awareness through —   
 to not use such products —   
 — Social Media   
 — Government - Fact Checks   
 — Media journalists

③ Ban of product if found this export failed products in market

④ Investigation of companies records and   
 [ auditing of firm to check all irregularities.

- ⑤ Check and take away all export check failed products and not give back to company
  - ⑥ Compensating to people for their misbehavior
    - ↳ Competition Commission of India
    - ↳ Consumer Redressal Forum
- Long term measure: setting strict standard and precedent for any other company to avoid such behaviour

- ⑦ Course of action available to company to restore trust & manage crisis
  - ① To admit mistakes and give public apology
  - ② To compensate people who had issues due to this cream use
  - ③ To change board and management responsible for such utterance decisions
    - ↳ take independent, integrity based people into company.

**Feedback**  
(For OFFICE use only)

|         | G | A | P |
|---------|---|---|---|
| AWIS    |   |   |   |
| CD & VA |   |   |   |
| S & F   |   |   |   |
| P & R   |   |   |   |

Please put tick marks in the above table.  
Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| TOTAL MARKS |  |
|-------------|--|

- ④ To assure of certification of each product and public disclosure of all products further - periodic checks
  - ⑤ Moral persuasion to people - by asking forgiveness
  - ⑥ To take some celebrity - with good image for brand endorsement - social proofing technique
  - ⑦ By launching new products only for domestic market → to gain trust
  - ⑧ To give discounts to people to take products
- If nothing works: change the company name and being new product.

However, it is very difficult to ~~be~~ join a shattered glass just like that trust once broken is difficult to gain

**Q.10)** A forest fire has broken out in a hilly district and is rapidly spreading toward an eco-sensitive area that includes four villages (ESA villages). These villages lie along the forest fringe and are surrounded by difficult terrain. The region is known for its biodiversity and traditional forest-based livelihoods. The inhabitants of these villages are mostly poor tribal communities, dependent on forest resources for their sustenance.

You, as the District Magistrate of the area, have rushed to the spot with a medical team, police personnel, NGOs, media, and support staff to oversee the rescue and containment operations. Your disaster response team on the ground is small and poorly equipped. Reinforcements from the district headquarter have been requested, but they may take several hours to arrive due to the remoteness and challenging terrain.

In the meantime, a group of trained ex-forest guards and local youth from the villages offer to help. They are experienced and familiar with the area. However, existing government rules do not permit the engagement of unofficial personnel in fire control operations without formal clearance and insurance coverage.

Your team members are divided on this issue. Some members argue that volunteers should be engaged immediately to prevent the fire from spreading. Others caution that involving them without proper approval and safety cover could be risky and against protocol.

As the District Magistrate, you are also the Chairperson of the District Disaster Management Authority (DDMA). The fire is spreading at a very rapid rate, and immediate action is required to protect lives, property, and the environment. You are now in a dilemma.

- What are the options available to you?
- Critically evaluate each of the options identified by you.
- What option would you adopt and why?
- What are the ethical dilemmas being faced by you?

(20 marks, 250 words)

एक पहाड़ी जिले के जंगल में आग लग गई और यह तेजी से एक पर्यावरण-संवेदनशील क्षेत्र की ओर फैल रही है जिसमें चार गांव (ESA गांव) शामिल हैं। ये गांव जंगल के किनारे बसे हैं और दुर्गम इलाकों से घिरे हैं। यह क्षेत्र अपनी जैव विविधता और पारंपरिक वन-आधारित आजीविका के लिए जाना जाता है। इन गांवों के निवासी ज्यादातर गरीब आदिवासी समुदाय हैं, जो अपने जीवनयापन के लिए वन संसाधनों पर निर्भर हैं।

क्षेत्र के जिला मजिस्ट्रेट के रूप में, आप बचाव और नियंत्रण कार्यों की देखरेख के लिए एक मेडिकल टीम, पुलिस कर्मियों, गैर सरकारी संगठनों, मीडिया और सहायक कर्मचारियों के साथ घटनास्थल पर पहुंचे हैं। जमीन पर आपकी आपदा प्रतिक्रिया टीम छोटी और खराब रूप से सुसज्जित है। जिला मुख्यालय से सुदृढीकरण का अनुरोध किया गया है, लेकिन दूरदराज और चुनौतीपूर्ण इलाके के कारण उन्हें पहुंचने में कई घंटे लग सकते हैं।

इस बीच, प्रशिक्षित पूर्व वन रक्षकों और गांवों के स्थानीय युवाओं का एक समूह मदद करने की पेशकश करता है। वे अनुभवी हैं और क्षेत्र से परिचित हैं। हालांकि, मौजूदा सरकारी नियम औपचारिक मंजूरी और बीमा कवरेज के बिना अग्नि नियंत्रण कार्यों में अनौपचारिक कर्मियों को शामिल करने की अनुमति नहीं देते हैं।

इस मुद्दे पर आपकी टीम के सदस्य विभाजित हैं। कुछ सदस्यों का तर्क है कि आग को फैलने से रोकने के लिए स्वयंसेवकों को तुरंत काम पर लगाया जाना चाहिए। अन्य लोग चेतावनी देते हैं कि उचित स्वीकृति और सुरक्षा कवर के बिना उन्हें शामिल करना जोखिम भरा और प्रोटोकॉल के विरुद्ध हो सकता है।

जिला मजिस्ट्रेट होने के नाते आप जिला आपदा प्रबंधन प्राधिकरण (DDMA) के अध्यक्ष भी हैं। आग बहुत तेजी से फैल रही है और जान-माल तथा पर्यावरण की सुरक्षा के लिए तत्काल कार्रवाई की आवश्यकता है। अब आप दुविधा में हैं।

- आपके पास क्या विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?
- आपके द्वारा पहचाने गए प्रत्येक विकल्प का आलोचनात्मक मूल्यांकन करें।
- आप कौन सा विकल्प अपनाएंगे और क्यों?
- आपके सामने कौन सी नैतिक दुविधाएं हैं?

(20 अंक, 250 शब्द)



(Don't in the ...)

In Resc operations ...

The above case clearly depicts the conflict faced by civil servants whether to follow laws & Duties as per procedure established by law or take end work according to Rule of law by going beyond duty.

(A) Options available and their critical evaluation and (B)

| Options  | Positives  | Demerits   |
|--|--|--|
| (1) To follow govern<br>- merit rules and not allow volunteers without official clearance<br>4/6 | - Follow rules and duty as per (Laws)<br>- Don't jeopardise job as just following orders | - Risks life of many people<br>- Forgets "Duty to people first" rather than law<br>- Status-quoist mind - cognitive dissonance |
| (2) To allow ex-forest guards and youth  | - Utilitarianism "saves life of people"  | - Might lose job<br>- Against civil  |

|   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <p>in rescue operations immediately</p>   | <p>- <u>Proactive</u> step abiding by "<u>Supercorogation</u>"</p> <p>- Moral victory as deciding for <u>greater good</u></p> | <p>Services rule</p> <p>- Risks life of forest guards &amp; youth - as no insurance</p> |
| <p>⑤ Inform the to hurry up and wait for some time if no response then option ③</p> | <p>- Procedural integrity maintained</p> <p>- Try to balance Duty and Rights</p>  | <p>- Delay might affect lives of people</p>   |

⑤ Option to be adopted would be ③

① Information sent to headquarters, so that procedure is followed.

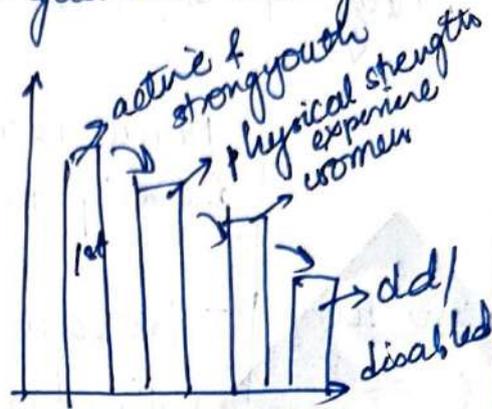
② Assuring as forest guards and youth are trained enough by conducting short mock drill

③ Prioritising life insurance and clearance for them once ~~the~~ in case of death

# ForumIAS

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④ choice of those forest guards and youth based on following priority, and allowing first set of guards and later if worsens then send others



⑤ Taking responsibility of this decision later

⑥ Media coverage of how ex-forest guards and youth helped and → for their insurance later

## Reasons for this option

- ① Public justice and fair attitude in times of stress
- ② Public interest is of maximum value than personal duty.
- ③ Values of proactive, pragmatic approach needed rather than rule based
- ④ To protect biodiversity and tribes from

**Feedback**  
 (For OFFICE use only)

| #       | G | A | P |
|---------|---|---|---|
| AWIS    |   |   |   |
| CD & VA |   |   |   |
| S & F   |   |   |   |
| P & R   |   |   |   |

Please put tick marks in the above table.  
 Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor.

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| TOTAL MARKS |  |
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**Q.11)** In one of the government primary schools located in a rural block of a district, the newly appointed headmistress observed an unusual practice. The school had been preparing and serving mid-day meals separately to students belonging to different communities. Although the meals were cooked using a common gas connection, separate utensils, cooking areas, and serving arrangements had been in place for more than two decades. Students from the two communities had their food cooked and served by different cooks and ate in separate classrooms, despite attending classes together.

After taking charge, the headmistress decided to discontinue this practice. She directed that food be prepared and served together for all students, using a common kitchen and utensils. However, the decision triggered backlash. A considerable number of parents across communities vehemently opposed the move and stopped sending their children to school. Consequently, attendance fell by almost 60 percent. This also raised concerns regarding the possible discontinuation of the mid-day meal scheme, withdrawal of teaching staff, and even closure of the school due to falling enrolment. The issue has attracted attention from various political and social groups attempting to further polarise the situation and serve their vested interests.

Marpi Apang, the District Education Officer (DEO), has been tasked by the Deputy Commissioner's office to amicably resolve the matter at the earliest. She has also been directed to submit a detailed report along with the Action Taken Report within a fortnight.

- Identify the ethical issues involved in this case.
- What course of action should Marpi adopt and why?
- What should be the responsibilities of different social segments and agencies to create positive social ambiance for accepting such changes? (20 marks, 250 words)

जिले के ग्रामीण ब्लॉक में स्थित एक सरकारी प्राथमिक विद्यालय में, नवनियुक्त प्रधानाध्यापिका ने एक असामान्य प्रथा देखी। विद्यालय में अलग-अलग समुदायों के छात्रों के लिए अलग-अलग मध्याह्न भोजन तैयार किया जाता था और परोसा जाता था। हालांकि भोजन एक ही गैस कनेक्शन का उपयोग करके पकाया जाता था, लेकिन अलग-अलग बर्तन, खाना पकाने के क्षेत्र और परोसने की व्यवस्था दो दशकों से अधिक समय से चली आ रही थी। दोनों समुदायों के छात्रों का भोजन अलग-अलग रसोइयों द्वारा पकाया और परोसा जाता था और वे एक साथ कक्षाओं में उपस्थित होने के बावजूद अलग-अलग कक्षाओं में खाते थे।

कार्यभार संभालने के बाद, प्रधानाध्यापिका ने इस प्रथा को बंद करने का फैसला किया। उन्होंने निर्देश दिया कि सभी छात्रों के लिए एक ही रसोई और बर्तनों का उपयोग करके भोजन तैयार किया जाए और परोसा जाए। हालांकि, इस निर्णय का विरोध शुरू हो गया। विभिन्न समुदायों के काफी संख्या में अभिभावकों ने इस कदम का कड़ा विरोध किया और अपने बच्चों को स्कूल भेजना बंद कर दिया। नतीजतन, उपस्थिति में लगभग 60 प्रतिशत की गिरावट आई। इससे मिड-डे मील योजना के बंद होने, शिक्षण कर्मचारियों को वापस बुलाने और यहां तक कि नामांकन में गिरावट के कारण स्कूल बंद होने की आशंका भी जताई गई। इस मुद्दे ने विभिन्न राजनीतिक और सामाजिक समूहों का ध्यान आकर्षित किया है जो स्थिति को और अधिक ध्रुवीकृत करने और अपने निहित स्वार्थों को पूरा करने का प्रयास कर रहे हैं।

जिला शिक्षा अधिकारी (DEO) मार्पी अपांग को डिप्टी कमिश्नर कार्यालय द्वारा मामले को जल्द से जल्द सौहार्दपूर्ण ढंग से सुलझाने का काम सौंपा गया है। उन्हें एक पखवाड़े के भीतर कार्रवाई रिपोर्ट के साथ एक विस्तृत रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने का भी निर्देश दिया गया है।

- इस मामले में शामिल नैतिक मुद्दों की पहचान करें।
- मार्पी को क्या कार्यवाही अपनानी चाहिए और क्यों?
- ऐसे परिवर्तनों को स्वीकार करने के लिए सकारात्मक सामाजिक माहौल बनाने हेतु विभिन्न सामाजिक वर्गों और एजेंसियों का क्या उत्तरदायित्व होना चाहिए? (20 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Kriyanka Pandey has conducted a similar study depicting how caste based separation is practised in schools - approx 38% of them in India especially during Mid Day Meals.

My stance: Treat all equally in the temple of education and elsewhere

① ethical issues in the caste

- ① caste based discrimination against Fundamental rights (Art 15)
- ② Segregation and social sanctions leads to separation & exclusion of lower castes
- ③ strengthening casteism in society as parents, children all oppose changes by headmistress
- ④ School dropout rates → illiteracy of children and harms growth of child

⑤ Lack of equal educational opportunity to all → Separation reduces child's effectiveness

⑥ Withdrawal of Mid Day Meal → jeopardises nutritional security of children

⑦ Lack of quality education - as teachers withdraw

↳ Against Directive Principles of State Policy (Art 45A)

⑧ Course of action to be adopted by MP

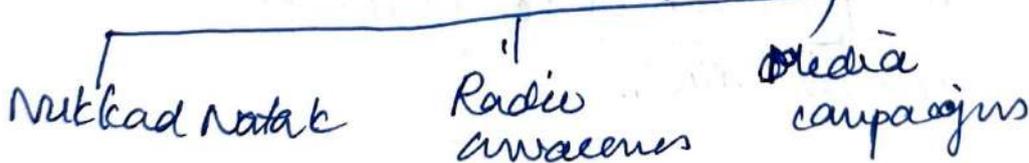
① Setup an enquiry committee to check the scenario

- collect facts and evidences
- witnesses to be produced

② Persuasion to parents to not take away child's future by questioning & reasoning

"Do you want to lose your child's future just because there is inter-dining?"

③ Involving civil society groups to spread social awareness against casteism





④ Sensitising political groups to avoid polarising and if not agreeing then take stick policy of punishing those who radicalise

⑤ Improving enrolment ratio by carrot and stick policy :

Carrot : Provide education at low fees

Stick : Remove caste discrimination by maintaining common place

⑥ Value Education to students to maintain fraternity & brotherhood, and not caste based differentiation

Rationale behind this

① Equality of all necessary - democratic principles

② Protection of lower caste groups from discrimination

③ Sensitisation needed as mindset needs to be changed

(Don't Write anything in this Area / इस स्थान पर कुछ न लिखें)

④ taking soft measures to not turn public against such measures  
↳ slowly convinced as persuasion wins & force falters.

⑤ Responsibilities of different social segments & agencies to create positive social ambience

① Spreads awareness of equal rights to all sections  
↳ Inamri Agrinidha → NSO

② Institutions of NHRE, NCST, NSDC, have to protect rights of low caste and provide positive affirmations for social mobility  
↳ Klump schools      Reservation      low fees

③ To build a conducive environment to freely participate - by political groups in democracy

④ To promote interaction and participatory democracy through PDS, where all equally participate.

### Feedback

(For OFFICE use only)

| #  | G | A | P |
|--|---|---|---|
| AWIS   |   |   |   |
| CD & VA  |   |   |   |
| S & F  |   |   |   |
| P & R  |   |   |   |
| Please put tick marks in the above table.<br>Here G is Good, A is Average and P is Poor. |   |   |   |
| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |



(Don't  
in this  
पर कुछ  
a) मामले में शामिल नैति  
b) इस स्थिति में आपने  
c) अपनी चुनी हुई क

**Q.12** You are a Municipal Commissioner of a tier-2 city experiencing rapid urban expansion. Several high-rise residential and commercial buildings are under construction in the city to meet the growing demand for housing. One such luxury residential complex is being built, employing hundreds of daily-wage labourers, many of whom live in temporary settlements at the construction site. Late one night during the monsoon season, a large section of scaffolding and concrete slabs collapses from the upper floors of one of the under-construction buildings. Seven labourers, including two minors, die on the spot. Several others are critically injured and rushed to the hospital. The tragic incident results in public outrage, intense media scrutiny, and protests by a local NGO. The state government orders a formal inquiry and directs you to submit a report within a week. Your preliminary investigation reveals a series of irregularities. The construction material used is substandard and not in accordance with the National Building Code. Although the approved plan permits construction of fifteen floors, the builder has illegally added two extra floors. Moreover, the structure has encroached on land demarcated for a community park and a fire service lane under the city's Zonal Development Plan. These violations are not reported during site inspections conducted by the building inspector of the municipal corporation. The building clearance was granted during the tenure of your predecessor, who is not only your batchmate but also a close friend. Both of you were roommates during your training at LBSNAA. Prima facie, the case appears to involve a widespread nexus between officials of the Municipal Corporation and the builder. Your colleagues are putting pressure on you to go slow in the inquiry. Some of them suggest that holding the builder accountable could damage the city's image among investors and slow down urban development. Meanwhile, you come to know that the builder is the younger brother of a powerful minister in the state cabinet. One evening, his personal aide visits you privately. He suggests that the matter could be "mutually settled" and offers you a premium apartment worth ₹2 crore in the same residential complex. In the same breath, he hints that if the matter is not resolved swiftly in the builder's favour, someone in his office is prepared to file a complaint against you under the SC and ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act.

- Discuss the ethical issues involved in the case.
- What are the options available to you in this situation?
- Explain your selected course of action.

(20 marks, 250 words)

आप एक टियर-2 शहर के नगर आयुक्त हैं, जो तेजी से शहरी विस्तार का अनुभव कर रहा है। आवास की बढ़ती मांग को पूरा करने के लिए शहर में कई ऊँची आवासीय और व्यावसायिक इमारतों का निर्माण किया जा रहा है। ऐसा ही एक आलीशान आवासीय परिसर बनाया जा रहा है, जिसमें सैकड़ों दिहाड़ी मजदूर काम करते हैं, जिनमें से कई निर्माण स्थल पर अस्थायी बस्तियों में रहते हैं। मानसून के मौसम में देर रात, निर्माणाधीन इमारतों में से एक की ऊपरी मंजिलों से मचान और कंक्रीट स्लैब का एक बड़ा हिस्सा गिर गया। दो नाबालिगों सहित सात मजदूरों की मौके पर ही मौत हो गई। कई अन्य गंभीर रूप से घायल हो गए और उन्हें अस्पताल ले जाया गया। इस दुखद घटना के परिणामस्वरूप सार्वजनिक आक्रोश, मीडिया की गहन जांच और एक स्थानीय गैर सरकारी संगठन द्वारा विरोध प्रदर्शन हुआ। राज्य सरकार एक औपचारिक जांच का आदेश देती है और आपको एक सप्ताह के भीतर एक रिपोर्ट प्रस्तुत करने का निर्देश देती है। आपकी प्रारंभिक जांच में कई अनियमितताओं का पता चलता है। उपयोग की गई निर्माण सामग्री घटिया है और राष्ट्रीय भवन संहिता के अनुसार नहीं है। हालाँकि स्वीकृत योजना पंद्रह मंजिलों के निर्माण की अनुमति देती है, लेकिन बिल्डर ने अवैध रूप से दो अतिरिक्त मंजिलें जोड़ दी हैं। इसके अलावा, संरचना ने शहर की क्षेत्रीय विकास योजना के तहत एक सामुदायिक पार्क और एक अभिशमन सेवा लेन के लिए निर्धारित भूमि पर अतिक्रमण किया है। नगर निगम के भवन निरीक्षक द्वारा किए गए साइट निरीक्षणों के दौरान इन उल्लंघनों की रिपोर्ट नहीं की जाती है। भवन की मंजूरी आपके पूर्ववर्ती के कार्यकाल के दौरान दी गई थी, जो न केवल आपके बैचमेट है, बल्कि एक करीबी दोस्त भी हैं। आप दोनों LBSNAA में अपने प्रशिक्षण के दौरान रूममेट थे। प्रथम दृष्टया, मामला नगर निगम के अधिकारियों और बिल्डर के बीच व्यापक साठगांठ से जुड़ा हुआ प्रतीत होता है। आपके सहकर्मी आप पर जांच में धीमी गति से आगे बढ़ने का दबाव बना रहे हैं। उनमें से कुछ का सुझाव है कि बिल्डर को जवाबदेह ठहराने से निवेशकों के बीच शहर की छवि खराब हो सकती है और शहरी विकास धीमा हो सकता है। इस बीच, आपको पता चलता है कि बिल्डर राज्य कैबिनेट में एक शक्तिशाली मंत्री का छोटा भाई है। एक शाम, उसका निजी सहायक आपसे निजी तौर पर मिलने आता है। वह सुझाव देता है कि इस मामले को "पारस्परिक रूप से सुलझाया जा सकता है" और आपको उसी आवासीय परिसर में ₹2 करोड़ का प्रीमियम अपार्टमेंट देने की पेशकश करता है। इसी बीच उन्होंने यह भी संकेत दिया कि यदि मामला बिल्डर के पक्ष में शीघ्र हल नहीं हुआ तो उनके कार्यालय से कोई व्यक्ति आपके खिलाफ अनुसूचित जाति एवं अनुसूचित जनजाति (अत्याचार निवारण) अधिनियम के तहत शिकायत दर्ज कराने के लिए तैयार है।

- a) मामले में शामिल नैतिक मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें।  
 b) इस स्थिति में आपके पास क्या विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?  
 c) अपनी चुनी हुई कार्यवाही का विवरण दीजिए।

(20 अंक, 250 शब्द)

Political pressures are a common scenario in life of a civil servant. Sacrificing of principles at altar of pressures will lead to loss of everything.

### (Q1) Ethical issues in cases

- ① Illegal and irregular inquiry conducted  
↳ failure of institutional mechanism
- ② Conflict of interest as close friend granted building clearance, and any notice will put his/her career at stake
- ③ Bribery and threat to settle the matter
- ④ Life of people jeopardised - Death of minors & 7
- ⑤ Pressure from seniors → to go slow and avoid major inquiry
- ⑥ City's image damage as development would slow down with losing



(Don't in the...)

image for investors -

- ⑦ Nexus of politicians and bureaucrats
- ⑧ lack of transparency and accountability to people - Against Virtue Ethics

(b) Options available in this situation

- ① To abide by what seniors say and not report irregularities

### Merits

- ① Protects job
- ② Friend is saved from sentencing

### Demerits

- ① unaccountability to lives lost in mishap
- ② Might not deter the investors - so repeat
- ③ Crisis of conscience

- ③ To conduct adequate inquiry and report all problems

Merits → Moral uprightness  
 → Justice to people who lost

Remedies → FIR against me in SC/ST Act  
 → Might affect my career & image

③ To leave enquiry by getting conflict of interest as friend involved in case

④ ~~Options available~~ Option selected would be ②

This would be based on maintaining fairness and justice delivered to all people equally.

Course of Action would be

① To conduct detailed inquiry by involving specialists, engineers to survey and produce report on conditions of labour → substandard quality, building strength

② Talk to friend and explain the need to take such a step and keep duty first

### Feedback

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|--|---|---|---|
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| TOTAL MARKS  |   |   |   |

# U.P.S.C.

- ⑤ Take out proofs → to depict land encroachments, extra floor creation by producing witnesses
- ⑥ Take up case to Fast Track Courts to address issues of people who lost lives & so that they get compensation
- ⑦ To submit report of committee to departmental higher authorities for their opinion → if abides by right approach follow it, else take a courageous step
- ⑧ Give report & press meet to media to explain reason of event
- ⑨ Ensure city development by ensuring base of doing business steps as incentives in long term

Thus any infrastructural project should have right quality checks, third party checks