

TEST CODE 8 1 4 4 1 2

MGP 2025

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Time Allowed : Three Hours



Maximum Marks : 250

समय : तीन घंटे

अधिकतम अंक : 250

## GENERAL STUDIES / सामान्य अध्ययन

Name Of Candidate

परीक्षार्थी का नाम

Roll No./अनुक्रमांक

Medium/माध्यम

English  हिंदी 

Center Code/परीक्षा केंद्र

Date/दिनांक

\*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. प्र.सं.	Max. Marks अधिकतम अंक	Marks Obtained प्राप्तांक
1		
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20		
<b>Total/कुल अंक</b>	<b>250</b>	

1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No and Mobile in the answer sheet.

कृपया उत्तर-पुस्तिका में नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर और मोबाइल नंबर भरें।

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

उत्तर पुस्तिका में अंग्रेजी/हिंदी में बारह प्रश्न दिए गए हैं, सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

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

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के लिए निर्धारित अंक उसके सामने अंकित किए गए हैं।

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.

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।

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.

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।

## For Student Only / केवल परीक्षार्थी प्रयोग हेतु

Examiner's Discretion/मूल्यांकन कर्ता का विवेक :

Start Time/प्रारंभ करने का समय :

End Time/समाप्त करने का समय :

Total Marks/कुल अंक :

Mode Of Examination/  
परीक्षा की विधि :Online/ऑनलाइन Offline/ऑफलाइन 

\*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.

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।

## For Office Use Only / केवल कार्यालय प्रयोग हेतु

ECN CODE/  
ईसीएन कोड :

EG/ईजी :

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Evaluation Date/  
मूल्यांकन तिथि :

**Note:** Students are expected to incorporate suggestions from the feedback provided in the answers. Discussion classes for the tests are also available online in your portal to aid in your preparation. Further, students are requested to see the good 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.

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## EXAMINER'S REMARKS

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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.

## UPSC

Candidate must adhere to the word limit specified in the question.  
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Q1 a) The rising influence of money power in Indian elections is a concern shared by the Election Commission of India, the supreme court and various constitutional experts.

serious challenge to transparency, fairness and democratic accountability:

- ① lack of transparency on donors and their respective donations to political bodies (Electoral bonds)
- ② Increasing use of freebies and sops to influence voting behaviour (wrong means - Gandhian ethics)
- ③ lack of level-playing field among independents,

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registered and recognised parties

- ④ Political parties not under the ambit of RTI
- ⑤ Huge expenditure incurred in elections (₹1.35 trillion in 2024 general elections)
- ⑥ Lack of consideration of opportunity cost: Expenditure on welfare programmes.

Ethical electoral funding to maintain integrity of democracy.

- ① Bringing political parties under RTI Act
- ② state funding of elections (Indrajit Gupta committee)
- ③ National Electoral Fund (SY Quaiski)
- ④ voter awareness through IEC campaigns

Maintaining the sanctity of the electoral process is crucial for safeguarding democracy.

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# UPSC

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b) Ethics is a set of standards that a society places on itself which helps guide behaviour, choices and actions. It is a systematic study of human actions from the point of view of rightfulness and wrongfulness.

Key dimensions of ethics that influence human behaviour:

- ① common good : That action is ethical which advances the common good  
Eg. Efficiency in government processes
- ② Virtue approach : cultivation of good traits of character and universal, intrinsic values. Eg. truth, goodness, compassion
- ③ Rights approach : Advancement

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of fundamental human rights  
Eg. Food, education, health

④ Fairness/justice : Highest goal according to Socrates and Plato

⑤ Utilitarianism : Action which produces the greatest balance of good over harm

Ethical decision making in private life :

① Not causing harm to others (common good)

② Effort to cultivate a wholesome, likeable personality by being virtuous

③ Practising one's own rights while not infringing on others' rights

④ Being just while dealing with family members  
Eg. one's own kids.

⑤ Avoiding misconduct for a harmonious, peaceful life

Ethics is the guiding light for a happy life.

# UPSC

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Q2 a) In the words of Nelson Mandela  
"Education is the most  
powerful weapon you can  
use to change the world."

In this context, maintaining  
Academic freedom is of  
paramount importance.

- ↳ Development of critical  
thinking and analytical  
mindset
- ↳ Reaping our demographic  
dividend
- ↳ Building human capital  
and civic agency
- ↳ Nation's development.

Ethical issues from education-  
al institutions yielding to  
political, social or economic  
pressures and compromising  
academic freedom:

- ① Not performing their assigned  
duty. (Kant's duty dictum)

## UPSC

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- ② wrongness of means to achieve superfluous ends (consequentialism and Gandhian ethics)
- ③ lack of intellectual integrity and dedication to perceived role in society (virtue ethics)
- ④ compromise with students' right to achieve quality education (constitutional morality — Article 21A)
- ⑤ institutional sclerosis and crisis of conscience (categorical imperative)
- ⑥ cannot be made universal moral law (Kant)
- ⑦ lack of public faith and trust → Abdication of responsibility

Reasonable and balanced  
academic freedom is necessary  
to train our human capital  
for Viksit Bharat by 2047.

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b) Fortitude has been regarded by Plato as one of his 4 cardinal virtues. It is the quality of being courageous and resilient in one's actions irrespective of the circumstances and consequences.

Fortitude enables a civil servant to make difficult yet morally right decisions.

- ① Promotion of common good and justice and equality in society. Eg. IAS in Himachal Pradesh performed a 'Pooja' on Dusshera which was forbidden for women
- ② Display one's integrity and probity. Eg. Ashok Khemka → 55 transfers in 30 years of service

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③ Perform one's duty to the best of one's capabilities. Eq. IAS in Tamil Nadu spent a night in graveyard to safeguard evidence with him

④ Not being overwhelmed by external pressures when listening to voice of conscience. Eq. Edward Snowden, D. Roopa → whistleblowers

⑤ Upholding the rule of law and constitutional principles. Eq. IAS in Haryana faced death threats over crackdown on illegal mining.

Fortitude must be carefully cultivated and encouraged by our education system, parents, society and media.

## UPSC

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Q3 a) Professor APJ Abdul Kalam is fondly remembered as the 'Missile Man of India', former President of India and an inspiration to India's youth

The given quote underlines the imperative role of learning, creativity, thinking and knowledge in economic growth and development.

- Purposeful learning promotes critical, analytical, dynamic and creative thinking (thinking out of the box)
- such learning expands the horizon of one's knowledge so that one goes beyond the

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curriculum.

- It gives rise to innovation, R&D, new discoveries and inventions, start ups, etc
- Wholesome knowledge propels growth of skill-intensive sectors, generating employment and growth in the process.
- Ability to learn, create, think and know freely and fully builds human capabilities to promote the economy's growth.

In the words of Dr. Kalam, "we are all born with a divine fire within us. Our efforts should be to give wings to this fire and fill the world with the glow of its goodness."

## UPSC

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b) Mahatma Gandhi, the principle architect of India's freedom struggle, is the 'Jewel' in the crown of India.

The given quote by Mahatma Gandhi exhorts us to perform our duties to the best of our capabilities so as to make the world a better place.

Reasons for difference between what we do and what we are capable of doing:

- ① Attitude of apathy, arrogance or indifference (Thinking that someone else will solve the problem): waste management
- ② Individualism and selfishness (Promotion of self interest over public interest) → Page Inequality

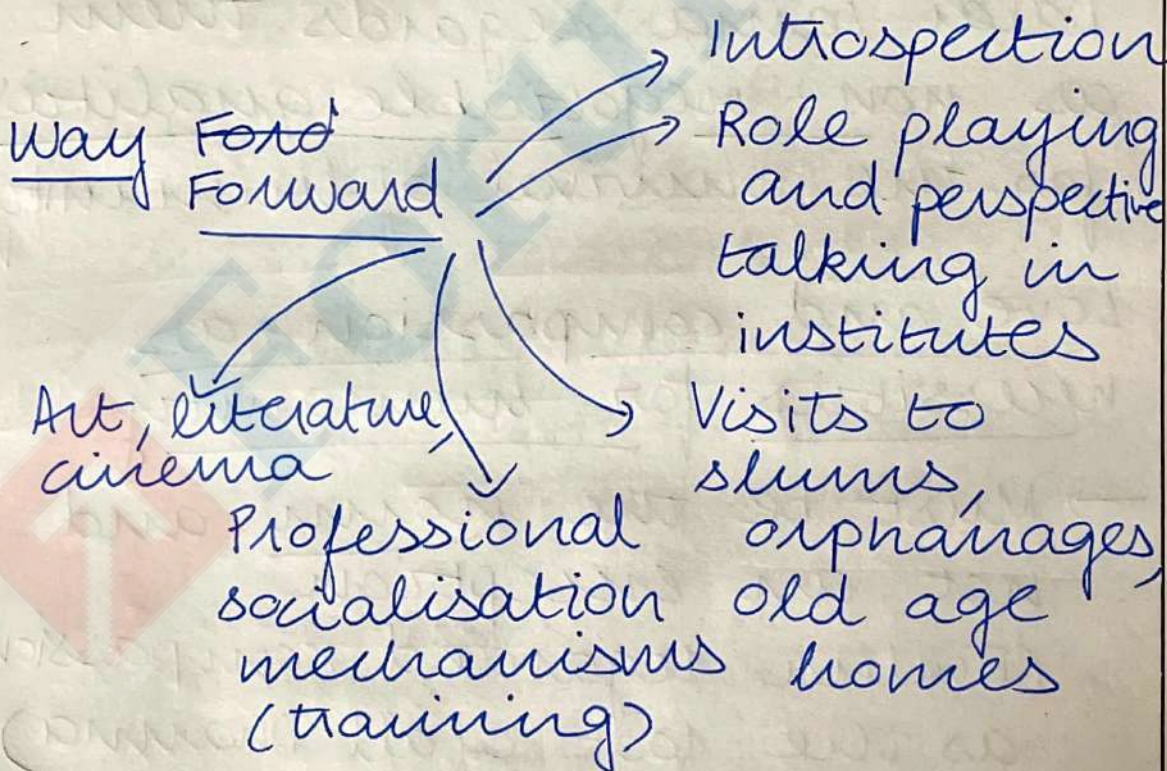
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③ Belief that one person can make no difference Eg. wars, climate change, pollution, etc.

④ lack of concern, care and compassion for those suffering. → hunger, poor health, social stigma and discrimination, etc.



It is commonly said, "Wisdom begins with owning up to ignorance."

# UPSC

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c) His Holiness the Dalai lama is the undisputed leader of the Buddhists belonging to Tibetan region of China.

love and compassion elicit empathy for the suffering of others and an active desire to alleviate it. The Dalai lama regards them as non-negotiable qualities for the survival of humanity.

Love and compassion as necessities for humanity

→ Must be the norm and not an exception  
(Buddha regarded compassion as the root of all Dharma)

→ Together make the world a better place  
(compassionate Kozhikode project)

# UPSC

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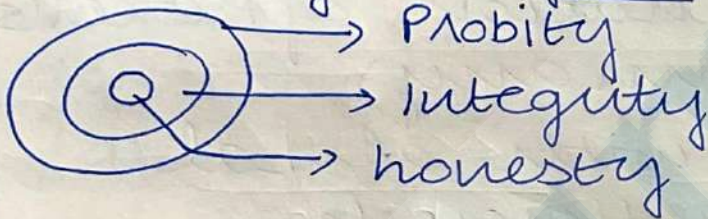
- Diminish the sufferings of those around us (NGOs such as Akshaya Patra, goonij, Bachpan Bachao Andolan)
  - Unite the world in the face of oppression (condemnation of Hitler's Nazi Germany)
  - Dealing with global problems through cooperation (climate change, ozone hole, etc.)
  - Bringing reforms in society towards modernisation (Raja Rammohan Roy's fight against sati)
  - Role modelling for others (Mother Teresa)
  - Good governance (IAS Amstrong Pame)
- In the words of Mother Teresa,  
"There are no great things,  
only small things done with  
love.

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Q4 a)

Probity means integrity, uprightness and honesty along with other public service values like impartiality, transparency and accountability, together leading to good governance



Probity as the foundation of ethical public administration:

- ① Promotes economy, efficiency and effectiveness in government processes  
Eg. Procurement of goods, services, works
- ② counters maladaptive behaviour. Eg. corruption, nepotism, etc.
- ③ Promotes social justice and

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public welfare → Efficiency  
in delivery of schemes

- ④ Installs a citizen-responsive and participatory adminis-  
-tration (grievance redressal  
mechanisms)
- ⑤ Builds public × faith, trust  
and confidence (Transparency  
in functioning)
- ⑥ Empowers citizens (RTI,  
media, ombudsman)
- ⑦ Promotes good and ethical  
governance
- ⑧ Builds healthy work  
culture
- ⑨ contributes to national  
growth and development

Probity is a sine-qua-non  
for achieving SDG 16 (Peace,  
justice and strong institutions)

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b) In the words of Pierre Mac  
Orlan, "Humanity is first  
and premost a stomach."

Ethical considerations that  
should guide powerful  
nations in preventing blockade  
of food and medical aid:

- ① Wrongness of means  
deployed to achieve  
ulterior motives (Gandhian  
ethics)
- ② categorical imperative to  
prevent starvation and  
death (Kant)
- ③ Universal Declaration of  
Human Rights: Right to  
Food and International  
Law
- ④ Intellectual integrity: No  
double standards and

## UPSC

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consistently in calling out  
unacceptable actions

- ⑤ Duty to uphold universal moral law (Kant)
- ⑥ Non-violence as 'Dharma' (Gandhi and Buddha)
- ⑦ Right to Food as a fundamental and natural right of humans
- ⑧ Avoid setting of the wrong precedent
- ⑨ Maintaining the effectiveness of institutions for global governance (UN)
- ⑩ Upholding empathy, compassion and impartiality in global relations

Weaponisation of food by Israel in Gaza is being deemed as a war crime and genocide and the most gruesome conduct in Page wars of the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

# UPSC

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Q5 a) Mahavira was the 24<sup>th</sup> Tirthan-  
kara (Great teacher) of the  
Jaina community whose  
teachings form an  
~~interest~~ inextricable part of  
Indian ethics.

Teachings of Mahavira  
relevant today and reasons:

① "Do your duty and do it  
as humanly as you can."

— Mahavira

→ Dereliction of duty,  
abdication of responsibility,  
ethical fading in  
current times

② Simple living, high  
thinking

→ culture of consumption,  
greediness, materialism

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- ③ Non-violence for all living creatures (Ahimsa)  
↳ Wars, mob lynching, cow vigilantism, moral policing
- ④ speaking truth at all times (satya)  
↳ cyber frauds, cheating in romantic relationships, etc.
- ⑤ Not taking the not given (apauri-graha)  
↳ encroachment, jealousy, constant comparisons
- ⑥ Abiding sexual misconduct  
↳ Rape cases, sexual harassment
- ⑦ Importance of right faith, conduct and action and knowledge (triratna of Jainism)  
↳ To bring wholesomeness in life

Teachings of Mahavira will continue to guide humanity on the ethical path for eternity.

# UPSC

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b) Attitude refers to preferences towards things, issues, events and people. It has 3 components: Affective, cognitive and behavioural.

Social media platforms as powerful agents in shaping individual and societal attitudes:

- ① Influence over cognitive component of attitude  
Eg. Posts/pages on healthy living shaping people's opinion
- ② Gathering of support for a particular cause  
Eg. #Me Too Movement
- ③ Images and videos to invoke affective component  
Eg. Ads/commercials

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- ④ Facilitating easy access to information Eq. Tweets on
- ⑤ Formation of pre-conceived notions about someone Eq. Dating apps, Facebook Profile, WhatsApp chats
- ⑥ Rapid spread of fake/doctored news, misinformation (WhatsApp Forwards)
- ⑦ Instantaneous sharing of thoughts and opinions
- ⑧ Defining generational traits (slang used by gen z, Millennials, etc.)
- ⑨ Formation of strong opinions (feminism, equality, etc.)

However, social media complements the role of society, parents, educational institutions, peers, etc. in shaping attitudes.

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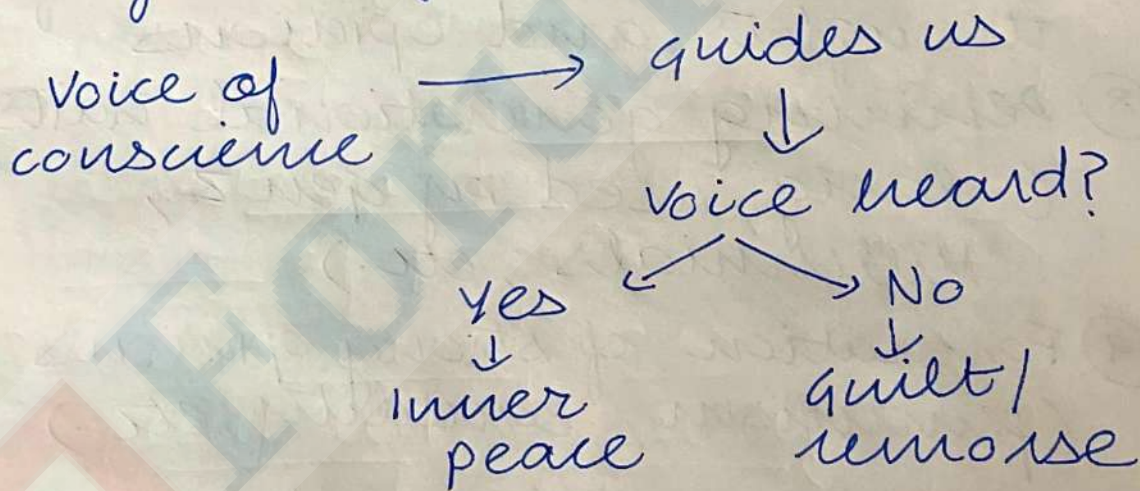
# UPSC

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Q6.a)

Voice of conscience refers to the inner voice in the deeper recesses of our consciousness which helps us in differentiating the right from the wrong.

↳ Helps us in upholding morality, our values and principles and in guiding ethical conduct.



Immanuel Kant used the concept of 'categorical Imperative' which is the internal law imposed by the conscience upon itself.

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Preparing oneself to listen to the voice of conscience:

- ① self awareness with respect to one's values which can never be compromised (honesty, devotion to duty)
  - ② Introspection before taking decisions on ethical dilemmas
  - ③ Having courage of conviction and self confidence to face external pressures
  - ④ Enhancing one's skill base and knowledge for informed decisions
  - ⑤ Cultivating calmness, composure and balance in personality
  - ⑥ Resisting undue influence
- Mahatma Gandhi once said, "If you commit a sin once, you will commit it again."

# UPSC

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b) Fiscal accountability of the government entails effective-ness, economy and efficiency in utilisation of public funds.

Reasons for under-utilisation and mis-utilisation of public funds :

- ① lack of proper assessment of requirements at budgeting stage
- ② lack of dedication and devotion to duty on the part of public servants
- ③ substandard conscience and splintered morality of public servants
- ④ Involvement in nefarious activities : corruption, diversion (Pooja singhal case — MGNREGA funds)

# UPSC

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- ⑤ Lack of proper identification of beneficiaries : Inclusion and exclusion errors
- ⑥ Presence of middlemen providing sub-optimal services (Bridge construction)
- ⑦ Bureaucratic apathy  
↳ overburdened with other tasks

## Implications

- ↳ Erosion of public faith and confidence
  - ↳ Breeds a culture of indifference
  - ↳ Diminishes accountability and transparency
  - ↳ Legacy of corruption for successors
  - ↳ Impedes public welfare and nation's development
- An ethics audit and infrastructure is necessary to counter these tendencies.

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Q7

The given case study highlights the issue of flawed designs in our public infrastructure projects posing risks to public safety and well-being.

a) Options available to Ramesh as project manager:

I continue with the bridge construction as per design and complete it by the deadline

## Pros

- ① Effectiveness in assigned task
- ② safeguard own prospects of promotion
- ③ Following hierarchical directions (Weber's bureaucracy)

## Cons

- ① Risks to public safety (utilitarian perspective)
- ② Against intellectual integrity
- ③ crisis of conscience
- ④ Not doing duty properly

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II Resign from the position of project manager

Pros

- ① Absolved of responsibility and work
- ② Not required to take tough decision

Cons

- ① Passing the buck to someone else
- ② Harm to hard-earned reputation
- ③ Does not solve the issue
- ④ Running away from responsibility

III Build the case supported by facts and pursue organisational hierarchy to flag concerns

Pros

- ① Having courage of conviction
- ② Doing one's duty of putting

Cons

- ① Harm to promotional aspects
- ② Might have to face wrath of PWD Minister

# UPSC

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public interest first  
 ③ standing up for what is right (categorical imperative)  
 ③ Delay in completion of project  
 inconvenience to public

b) Ethical dilemmas faced by Ramesh:

- ① Following organisational directives v/s prioritising public safety
- ② career interest v/s public interest
- ③ categorical imperative v/s duty to follow instructions
- ④ Timely completion of the project v/s Ethical completion of the project
- ⑤ Dedication for assigned role v/s promotion of role
- ⑥ Intellectual integrity v/s believing in other institutions

# UPSC

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- c) Professional challenges likely to be faced by Ramesh:
- Earning the wrath of department seniors and PWD Ministers
  - ↳ Harm to career interests and promotion
  - ↳ Presenting and proving his case to convince seniors
  - ↳ Project delays, increase in expenditure and unwanted political attention.

Response to overcome such challenges → Present his case with technical facts with help from other engineering experts

↳ caution seniors if the hierarchy does not listen, publish findings in a newspaper in public interest  
 ↳ ridicule already being faced in social media circles

Ramesh should be assured of the dictum "Dharmo Rakshati Rakshita" (the law protects if protected)

# UPSC

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Q8. The given case study brings out the difficult choices women in Indian society face while managing work and familial relationships.

a) Ethical issues involved in the case :

① Prejudiced attitude of society: Questioning smushti's work commitment after maternity leave

② lack of intellectual integrity: Not judging men and women on same standards

③ lack of gender equality and gendered distribution of household responsibilities

④ Poor work culture : Not conducive for work - life balance

# UPSC

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⑤ lack of attention from parents to newly born child

⑥ lack of empathy: High workload on a new mother

⑦ lack of tolerance in the communally sensitive district

b) options available to sushiti:

① continue with the status-  
Pros cons quo:

① commitment to duty

② shattering society's preconceived notions

③ Meeting deadlines

④ career progression and role modelling

① Poor physical and mental health

② Neglect of newborn child

③ Unsustainable routine

④ Dual burden on women not addressed

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② Resign from the job

Pros

Cons

① can look after  
child and  
family

① wrong  
message to  
females in  
society

② opportunity  
to look after  
one's own  
health

② Running  
away from  
duty

③ compromise  
on personal  
ambitions

③ Focus on time management  
and equal sharing of  
household responsibilities

Pros

Cons

① gender equality  
within household

① Difficult in  
a  
demanding  
job

② No undue burden  
on smashti alone

② May take  
time to  
fructify

③ Better family  
life

## UPSC

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Q) suggestions to smushti for a healthy work-life balance:

- ① Focus on own spiritual, mental and physical health: Yoga, meditation, etc.
- ② Acquaint her superiors about her tough situation at home for more empathetic allotment of work
- ③ communicate to Aijun about the need to share child rearing duties
- ④ Prioritise rest whenever she can.
- ⑤ Time management in office: Delegation of work, efficiency in procedures, etc.

According to swami Vivekananda, "Every duty is holy and devotion to duty is the highest form of worship."

# UPSC

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Q9)

The given case study pertains to fraudulent practices which businesses and corporates engage in to expand their profits and market share

a) Ethical issues involved in the case:

① Commerce without morality (Gandhian sin)

② Wrong means deployed to maximise profits (Deontological ethics)

③ Diffusion of responsibility to provide good quality products

④ Evasion of triple bottom line : People, profit, planet

⑤ Lack of integrity : Differences in products which passed approval and those sold to public

# UPSC

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⑥ Lack of empathy and compassion for customers who might suffer after using substandard products

⑦ Crisis of conscience in company's management.

b) Actions that can be taken by the competent regulatory authority:

① Prosecuting the company under the relevant sections of the Companies Act, 2013, and other laws for violation of rules.

② Sealing the company's domestic operations until clearance is obtained from the court

③ Issuance of advisories for consumers to use the products cautiously

# UPSC

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- ④ Frequently conducting such random checks at facilities of other companies too
- ⑤ Issue a statement on its findings for perusal of society at large
- c) course of action available to the company:
- ① withdraw its product from shelves of Indian markets
  - ② conduct a meeting of top management with production, sales and finance verticals for revamp of product
  - ③ Re-launch the product in the market
  - ④ Follow full disclosure of regulatory approvals

## UPSC

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- ⑤ Demand a public apology for previous actions
- ⑥ ~~Be~~ Be ready to compensate those who might have suffered.

Reasons:

- ① Deployment of right means to achieve the desired ends
- ② Utilitarian perspective: Benefit of public at large
- ③ Following honesty and integrity → Building public trust
- ④ Prioritising its duty to put public interest first
- ⑤ Have a fresh start in the domestic market
- ⑥ stakeholder / compassionate capitalism

It is essential to 'Speak Truth to Power'

# UPSC

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Q10)

According to Forest Survey of India, 35.46% of Indian forests are prone to forest fires.

a) Available options

① Avoid engagement of volunteers and wait for reinforcements.

Pros

② Involve the volunteers immediately based on own decision as chairperson of DDMA

③ Involvement of volunteers informally and requesting accompanying team to stay silent on this

b) Critical evaluation option ①

## Pros

- ① Following rules and protocol
- ② Avoiding risk to volunteers' lives (Article 21)

## Cons

- ① Harm to lives and livelihoods of tribal communities
- ② Harm to biodiversity (environmental ethics)
- ③ Against duty dictum to save lives

## Option ②

### Pros

- ① Immediate help and proactive step
- ② Upholding own accountability and responsibility
- ③ Performing duty wisely
- ④ Utilitarian perspective

### Cons

- ① Against government rules
- ② Potential risk to lives of volunteers

# UPSC

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## Option ③

### Pros

- ① saving lives and livelihoods
- ② concern and compassion for lives

### Cons

- ① Media might not stay silent
- ② Harm to reputation: Reluctant in taking bold steps
- ③ cowardly act

c) I would choose option ② because :

- ① saving lives of tribal communities is of utmost priority for me (organisational expectation and constitutional morality)
- ② Imperative of saving maximum resources and causing minimum harm (utilitarianism)
- ③ saving biodiversity (Environmental ethics)

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- (4) Upholding duty to respond to disasters as chairperson of DDMA
- (5) Avoiding mental turmoil on account of not acting swiftly.

## d) Ethical dilemmas

- (1) Following rules v/s acting to save lives
- (2) Risking volunteer's lives v/s losing tribal's lives
- (3) Immediate prevention of fire v/s following proper protocol
- (4) Personal accountability v/s public interest
- (5) Means v/s ends

In this case, law may be violated to uphold the larger public good and owning up to accountability for the same.

# UPSC

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Q11)

The aforementioned case study highlights the prejudices and biases prevalent in the society at large and hindering with children's right to education and peaceful and harmonious social dynamics.

a) Ethical issues

- ① Violation of Articles 15 and 21 of the constitution (Right to equality, dignity and personal liberty) (constitutional morality)
- ② Polarisation in the society at large
- ③ Violation of children's Right to Education (Article 21A)
- ④ Pursuit of vested interests by social and political groups (against categorical imperative)

## UPSC

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⑤ Inculcation of wrong values among children (division and discrimination) → Against build up of human capital and reaping demographic dividend

⑥ Wrong socialisation by parents → not acting as role models

⑦ Perpetuation of disharmony and division in society → Against Equality and Fraternity

b) course of Action by Marpi

① she should arrange a meeting with stakeholders: Principal, parents of students, students' representatives and school staff.

② she should identify the root cause of the practice and use her emotional intelligence

# UPSC

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and persuasion skills to convince parents to send their children to school.

③ If they do not agree, Marpi can apprise them of the action that can be taken against them under the law for violating children's right to education.

④ In the action taken report, she may recommend long term measures such as propagation of ideas of equality in the rural block.

## Reasons

① Fighting against unjust and unfair social evils is a moral responsibility for a District officer.

② Marpi would be performing her duty by encouraging enrolment of school children.

# UPSC

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- ③ It is necessary to hear out all stakeholders and then use persuasion (Natural justice)
- ④ Rule of law must prevail at all times (law as source of ethics)
- ⑤ Necessity of providing good quality education to children

c) Responsibilities of different social segments and agencies

Parents → Role modelling  
→ Value transmission to children  
→ Promoting positive attitude towards others

Schools → Inculcation of values (equality, justice, etc.)  
→ Promote inter-mixing

Build strong future among children of the country

Political & social groups (civil society) → Encouragement to acts that promote harmony  
→ Building positive social capital

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Q12) The given case study highlights ethical fading and abdication of responsibility among members of the executive and private players.

a) Ethical issues

- ① Use of substandard material and not in accordance with National Building code (Violation of rules)
- ② Disregard for 'People' and 'Planet' in triple bottom line
- ③ Lack of sense of duty in the building inspector — non-reporting of violations.
- ④ Lack of diligence in approval of plan by predecessor
- ⑤ Unholy nexus between officials and builder
- ⑥ Pressure to go slowly in the inquiry (injustice to the dead)

# UPSC

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- ⑦ Possibility of nepotism in giving contract to builder (brother of a minister)
- ⑧ offer of a premium apartment → slippery slope and quid pro quo arrangements
- ⑨ wrong use of law → threat of a false case to hinder an official from performing his public duty.

b) options available

- ① Go slow with the inquiry and accept the minister's offer

Pros

cons

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① save myself from the false complaint and case</li> <li>② cordial relations with colleagues and minister</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>① crisis of conscience</li> <li>② Evasion of duty to do justice</li> <li>③ long term harm to district</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

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② Resign from my position  
Pros Cons

① saved from taking tough decisions

① Running away from duty

② Passing the buck to someone else

③ Harm to reputation

③ Prepare a detailed and objective report with clear reporting of facts

Pros

Cons

① Performance of duty

① Wrath of Minister

② Averting crisis of conscience

② Dealing with court case

③ Possible harm to future career prospects

④ I will choose option

③ because:

# UPSC

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- ① It leads to delivery of justice to the victims (highest virtue according to Plato and souates)
- ② It enforces accountability on the erring officials and builder
- ③ Necessary to avoid a crisis of conscience for inner peace
- ④ Ensuring long term benefit for society at large (utilitarianism)
- ⑤ Performing my duty in an objective manner (virtue ethics)
- ⑥ Following the path of truth and integrity (Gandhian ethics)

The consequent filing of a complaint against me is immaterial because ultimately the truth will come out in front of the judiciary which would absolve me of all charges.