

General Studies
Full Length Test
Test - 4 (GS - 4)
Test Code - A21054504

Evaluator Code:
Date of Assignment:
CQ:

NAME:

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Time allowed: 180 Minutes

ADMIN. NO.:

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MOBILE NO.:

Submission
Date:

9 August 2025

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:

There are **TWELVE** questions printed in **ENGLISH**. All the questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions, wherever 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.

Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks	Q No.	Marks
Q1 a)	/10	Q4 a)	/10	Q8	/20
b)	/10	b)	/10	Q9	/20
Q2 a)	/10	Q5 a)	/10	Q10	/20
b)	/10	b)	/10	Q11	/20
Q3 a)	/10	Q6 a)	/10	Q12	/20
b)	/10	b)	/10	Total :	/250
c)	/10	Q7	/20		

Instructions:-

- Legible Scanning:** Exercise due diligence in scanning your scripts for clear legibility
- Submissions** marred by poor scanning, notably those with illegible sections or blackened pages due to improper scanning, risk being excluded from the evaluation process.
- Non-Adherence Consequences:** Failure to comply with the aforementioned instructions may lead to the disqualification of your submission.

For Student Only

Start Time -

10.00 AM

End Time -

1.00 PM

Mode of Examination

Online Offline

Receiving date -

Dispatch date -

Parameters		Good	Average	Needs Improvement
Conceptual Understanding				
Contextual Clarity				
Structure	Introduction			
	Body			
	Conclusion			
Meeting the Demand of the Questions				
Value Addition- Use of examples, case studies, Current Affairs Linkage, data etc.				
Presentation-Illustrations, flowcharts, diagrams, etc.				
Language Competency and Flow				
No. of Questions Attempted				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adherence to Word Limit: Yes/No • Subject-Specific Remarks 				

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Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



(Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.)

Section A

1. (a) "Integrity in isolation may ensure honesty, but without impartiality and non-partisanship, governance cannot be ethical." Evaluate the interdependence of these foundational values in the context of public service. (10 marks, 150 words)

Integrity is the value system of a person that is consistent, coherent and non-compromised in all situations.

Integrity needs to ensure impartiality and non-partisanship as:

- Ⓐ Integrity without impartiality
It will lead to nepotism and favouritism. Ⓧ Civil servant giving tender to relatives.
- Ⓑ Integrity without non-partisanship
It will lead to favouring one party over other. Ⓧ Allegations on Election Commissioner to favour one party in Chandigarh Mayor elections.

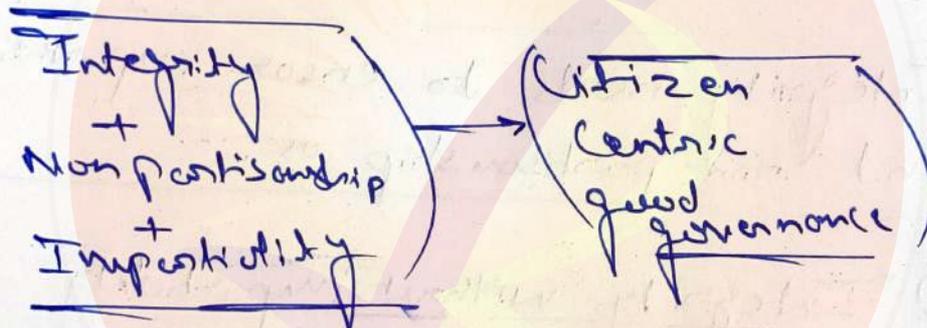
① Integrity with non partisanship and impartiality

① It will lead to citizen centric objective governance

eg) former IEC T.N. Sheshan integrity in elections conduct.

② It will ensure justice in program implementation

eg) fair distribution of PDS ration & MGNREGA work.



Thus as argued by 2nd ARC, civil servants must be guided by virtues of integrity, impartiality to uphold service ideals.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

(b) "The essence of ethics in human actions involves a balance between individual autonomy and societal norms". Examine this statement by exploring how ethical frameworks reconcile personal freedom with social responsibility.

(10 marks, 150 words)

As per Aristotle, human is social animal, hence one's autonomy should be in consonance with societal good to ensure good of one and all.

Balance between individual autonomy and Societal Norms

Balance	No Balance
① It will lead to ethical <u>abandonism</u> (J.S Mill)	① It will lead to extreme individualism.
② Will protect other's rights in enjoyment of one's rights.	② It may violate other's right to life and <u>dignity</u> (oxford report - <u>extreme</u> inequality)
③ It will promote peace, justice in society	③ It may lead to societal breakdown ④ French Revolution.

Framework to reconcile personal freedom with societal responsibility

① Individual level

→ Develop conscience, ideals of justice via value based education to promote Charity, compassion.

② Societal level

→ Follow the Constitutional Morality, do social reforms.
⊙ NALDA case → Transgender rights.

③ State level

→ Follow idea of social welfare via progressive taxation, welfare schemes

Further at the global level there is need to promote idea of human dignity, toleration to bring individual liberty in consonance with societal responsibility

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
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Marks:	

2. (a) Is conscience a universal moral compass, or is it shaped by society and upbringing? Illustrate with suitable examples.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Conscience represents the inner voice of a person that helps one to distinguish between right & wrong. It is persons constant moral compass (manthigi)

Conscience: A universal moral compass

- ① Human sense organs guides persons impulses
(J.S Mill argues that pleasure & pain are two guiding masters of person)
- ② Humans are inherently good, humane their conscience guides for goodness (eg John Locke idea of human nature)
- ③ Education leads to development of conscience @ person developing conscience by connecting with sick

Person

② Conscience shaped by society and upbringing

① Person develops idea of compassion while living in compassionate society. Socialisation of person in violent environment may hinder compassion development.

② Ideals, values, socialisation impact conscience. Children learn conscience of love, right behaviour from parents.

③ Conscience towards duties, religion is shaped by society.

Thus conscience is part of universal human instinct, it is shaped by society and upbringing too. In course of socialisation.

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Introduction	Suggestions:
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- (b) How can the ethical principles rooted in ancient Indian philosophy serve as a guide for policymakers and administrators in balancing development with ecological sustainability? (10 marks, 150 words)

The ancient Indian principles of Dharma, Dharma, non violence, Sarvodaya etc shaped India's and world's policy for sustainability.

Ethical principles of Indian philosophy shaping policies for sustainability

① Concept of Dharma (Duty/Right)

It shapes policy for Dharma towards environment while planning development.

⊗ Concept of Environmental Impact Assessment.

② Concept of Sarvodaya

It respects rights of all sections

⊗ Forests Rights Act to Tribals
conserves the ecology.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part) (Don't write anything in this part)

③ Idea of Buddhist Dharma

It emphasize on remaining Trishna, thus helps in guiding balance between development & environmental protection by curbing consumerism.

④ Non violence (Jainism)

→ It directs to save all life.
Thus idea of protection of sacred grooves.

⑤ Nature worship

→ This leads to protection of rivers
⊙ Namami Ganga program.

This ancient Indian philosophy guides our policy towards sustainability. It is reflected in Mission LIFE and Inlet's International Solar Alliance

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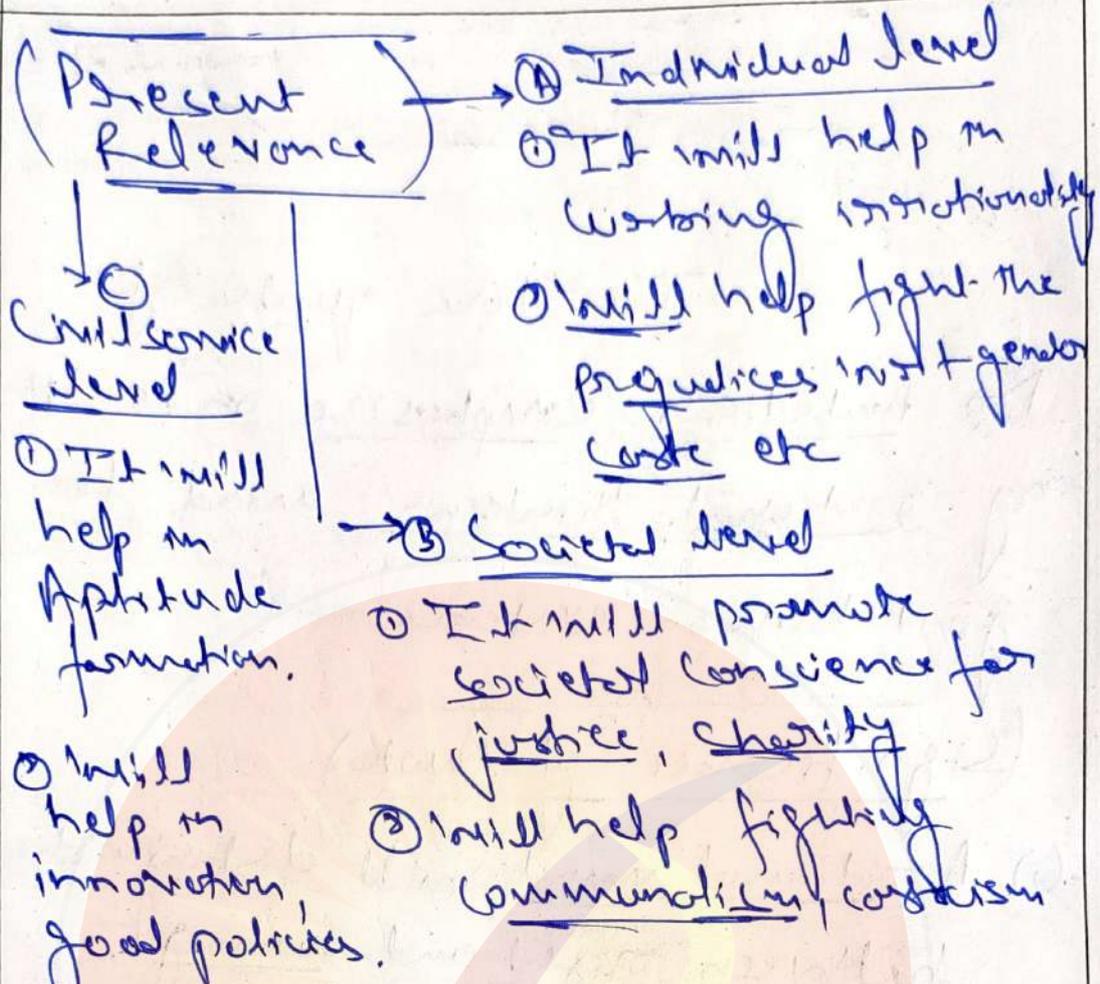
3. Given below are three quotations of great thinkers. What do each of these quotations convey to you in the present context?

(a) Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence.—Dr. B. R. Ambedkar (10 marks, 150 words)

The above quote of Dr. Ambedkar emphasize on develop-
ing rational, thinking mind for
good human existence.

(Significance of Quote)

- ① A rational mind will distinguish between right and wrong.
- ② It will help in scientific progress & Innovations.
- ③ It will lead to meaningful life.
Socrates argue → An uneducated life is not worth living.
- ④ Human Existence postulates excellence → excellence demands virtue → virtue comes from Cultivation of mind.



(This can be done by)

- ① Critical thinking formation at school level.
- ② Idea of public sphere, free thinking

This is argued by Amarthya Sen, capacity building will lead to cultivation of mind.

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(b) The coward calls the brave man rash, the rash man calls him a coward- Aristotle
(10 marks, 150 words)

The above quote signify the value relativist perspective i.e. how different values appear different from lenses of different people, societies.

(Meaning of Quote)

- ① Values are relative (eg) what may appear right in Afghanistan may appear wrong in USA.
- ② People's perspective differ due different level of consciousness.
(eg) A coward may call brave man and vice versa.
- ③ The ideals, values may mean different things in different times (eg) Sati was moral in past but immoral in present.

(Present relevance of quote)

(A) Individual level

① One should be tolerant to other's views as people differ in conscience and their idea of same thing may differ.

(B) Civil servant level

① Developing emotional intelligence to get perspective of different people rightly.

(C) Societal level

→ Developing the value plural, culture relativist perspective for peaceful society.

Thus one should be broad minded and of open nature to view the larger picture in holistic manner.

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Marks:	

- (c) Benevolence is a duty. He who frequently practices it, and sees his benevolent intentions realized, at length comes really to love him to whom he has done good- Immanuel Kant (10 marks, 150 words)

The above quote of Immanuel Kant signifies the significance of benevolence. It is not only duty / human virtue but is also a long term realisation of good life.

(Meaning of devote in broad sense)

- ① Benevolence is duty for it promotes human dignity
eg feeding the poor.
- ② It promotes goodwill, love that makes society virtuous.
- ③ It gives contentment in short time and will act as insurance in long time eg Anyone may become needy in future, goodness now will come to serve infuture.

Relevance in present context

① Individual level

→ It will help in developing compassion and virtue of care in person.

② Civil servant level

→ It will promote citizen centric compassionate governance
⊙ Effective implementation of welfare schemes.

③ Societal level

→ It will promote charity in society to promote inclusiveness
⊙ Charity during COVID

Thus to further the ideals of human dignity one should cultivate value of benevolence since childhood.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

4. (a) "Technology is ethically neutral until we apply it." Discuss this statement with reference to the ethical challenges posed by artificial intelligence and data privacy.
(10 marks, 150 words)

Technology is a neutral entity. Its good and bad will depend on the value system of a person using it.

(Technology: is ethically neutral)

① Nuclear Technology: It can be used to generate energy, also it can be misused to develop bomb.

② Chemistry: It can be used to develop fertilizers. Also it was misused to make poisonous gas used in World War II.

Ethical challenges posed by AI & Data Privacy

① Breach of Privacy

AI can be misused for surveillance & hence privacy breach.

② Discrimination

AI models can be misused for developing models that distinguish between places / identities.

③ Job of Job

AI may deprive low end job workers of right to work.

④ Deepfakes using AI

AI may misuse photo / speech to generate false content.

(Incyphered)

① Data privacy law like GDPR of EU

② Build Responsible, inclusive AI model to respect data privacy.

The Paris AI summit emphasised on ethical AI model

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
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Marks:	

- (b) Rules and procedures are essential for institutional functioning. However, they are not substitutes for ethical leadership and value-based discretion. Justify your answer with examples from public administration. (10 marks, 150 words)

Rules and procedures are guidelines that ensures the objectivity, rule of law, procedural compliance & financial propriety for the institutional functioning. However:

Rules & procedures are not substitute for ethical leadership & value based discretion as:

- ① Rules & procedures may be circumvented: eg misuse of Section 8 of RTI by officers to not disclose information under RTI.
- ② Misuse of discretion make rules to fall on its face eg Alleged misuse of discretion of Governor to topple Hrish Keshav government in 2014.

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③ Unethical leadership may lead to violation of Law (eg) Misuse of Money Bill provision to pass the Health Act.

Thus what is needed is ethical leadership → value based discretion

① It will ensure following Spirit & letter of Law.

⊙ Leadership of T.N Seshan in Election Commission.

② It will promote rule of law and Citizen Centricity

⊙ Use of discretion by former President MPJ Abdul Kalam to send back Office of Profit Bill

Thus rules require ethical leadership and value based discretion for their obedience.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

5. (a) Is it ethically justified for youth to remain apolitical in a democracy if politics determines the moral fabric of society? Critically examine.

(10 marks, 150 words)

As per Hannah Arendt, participation in politics is human condition. It is source of good life and prevents totalitarianism.

Youth is justified to remain apolitical in democracy if

- ① There is compulsion of non participation \Rightarrow threat to life in violence affected area.
- ② The political system is discriminatory
 \Rightarrow Non participation in Apartheid system in South Africa.
- ③ There is no alternative choice
 \Rightarrow Single party system or lack of effective opposition.
- ④ If the elections are rigged or politics favours one group.

However politics favour merit fabric of society is demands participation

- ① Political participation is duty by virtue of citizenship.
- ② It will help in promoting the Constitutional democracy.
- ③ It will prevent totalitarian regime
- ④ It will make citizens responsible towards state & will help hold government accountable.

Even if political participation not feasible, we should employ the idea of social movement, dissent to voice one's opinion and let emerge the opposing idea in democracy.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

(b) Explain three moral dilemmas commonly faced by civil servants. Provide ethical frameworks to resolve them effectively. (10 marks, 150 words)

Moral dilemma is a situation where a person is finding difficulty in choosing among competing values @ choice among bureaucratic value and societal value.

Three moral dilemmas faced by civil servant

① Spirit side of law vs letter
Side of law
@ Spirit of law demands giving
notion to PNS beneficiary but
letter of law demands not to
as she don't have notion card.

② Constitutional morality vs societal
morality @ Sobhan Moha case
societal morality demanded ban
on women workshop while

Constitutional morality demands gender equality.

- ③ Public good vs Rule obedience
- ☹ Order of use of force on protesting farmers. While public good demands unlimited use of force.

(Framework to resolve dilemma)

- ① Follow Civil Service Conduct rules 1984.
- ② Abide by the Constitutional ideals / values.
- ③ Follow the ideals of Civil Services: integrity, honesty.
- ④ Take guidance from the rule book.
- ⑤ Listen to Conscience!
- ⑥ Follow Condition Tolson

With these ideals in mind Civil servant will be able to resolve ethical dilemmas

6. (a) "Sporting fairness and gender inclusivity are often on a collision course." Discuss the ethical dimensions involved in allowing transgender athletes to participate in women's sports. Should fairness outweigh inclusion? (10 marks, 150 words)

Sporting fairness

means obedience by values of honesty, & sportsmanship. Gender inclusivity means giving equal rights to all genders.

Ethical dimension in allowing transgender to participate in women's sports

① It will lead to unequal competition.

② It will lead to inequality. (As both are different genders) NALSA judgement

③ Sportsmanship demands competition with the same gender.

④ It will violate transgender's right to unique gender identity.

(Fairness outweigh inclusion as)

① Fairness demands treating equals equally and unequal unequally.

② There should be subcategorisation to ensure no one dominate the other by virtue of inherent strength.

③ Fairness demands competition where all are at starting line.

Thus gender classification is the fair demand and it will lead to more and equality and justice.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
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Marks:	

(b) How can Buddhist principles guide public servants in maintaining a balance between personal well-being and professional responsibilities in high-pressure governance environments?
(10 marks, 150 words)

Buddhist principles with emphasis on idea of Dhamma can help civil servants and professionals to have work life balance.

(Balance via Buddhist principles)

① Idea of Uttah prajna is equanimous state of mind. It will help in handling stress.

② Madhyam Marg
It will guide to have balance between work and life.

③ Idea of 8 fold path
It will develop wisdom to manage different tasks effectively maintaining balance.

④ 4 Noble Truths
 It will remove extreme desires for material wealth & will help to devote time with family.

⑤ Developing Emotional Intelligence via virtue of Compassion. It will help in handling stress.

(This can be cultivated by)

① Including Buddhist teachings in curriculum.

② Having Seminars, symposiums on Buddhist ideas.

③ Inculcating these teachings in training module.

→ This will help in promoting of person's professional well being.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
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Section B

7. Ravi, a senior IAS officer, is currently serving as the head of the State Health Procurement Division. He is tasked with overseeing the final stages of awarding a high-value government contract for the supply of critical medical equipment to district hospitals. This initiative is part of a public health modernization scheme aimed at strengthening healthcare delivery in underserved areas.

Among the shortlisted bidders is a private firm that has submitted a technically sound and competitively priced proposal. However, it has come to light through a media report that Ravi's daughter is a non-executive board member of this firm. Though she holds no operational or financial responsibilities, her association with the company has raised concerns in the public domain about a potential conflict of interest.

At the same time, Ravi is facing covert pressure from a second bidder, a politically well-connected company with a track record of substandard deliveries and cost overruns in past government contracts. Representatives of this company have informally offered Ravi indirect favours, including the prospect of a lucrative post-retirement consultancy role, should he influence the contract award in their favour.

Ravi is aware that while there is no formal requirement under departmental rules for recusal in this situation, the All India Services Conduct Rules do emphasize the importance of avoiding not just actual impropriety but even the appearance of impropriety. One of Ravi's senior colleagues advises him to proceed with the technically strong bid, arguing that his daughter's role is merely symbolic and that the bid deserves to win on merit.

However, the situation escalates when an anonymous complaint is filed by a junior officer to the Chief Secretary, flagging the potential conflict of interest and the possibility of favoritism. The issue starts gaining media traction, casting doubts on the transparency and impartiality of the procurement process. Ravi now finds himself in a dilemma, torn between his professional duty, personal integrity, and public perception.

- (a) Identify and discuss the ethical issues involved in this case.
- (b) What are the options available to Ravi? Evaluate each with respect to ethical principles such as, objectivity, integrity, accountability, and transparency.
- (c) What course of action should Ravi take to uphold both procedural propriety and public trust? Justify your decision using ethical reasoning.
- (d) How should Ravi manage the competing pressures of personal relationships, political influence, and institutional norms without compromising his role as a public servant?

(20 marks, 250 words)

The present case involves the pressure of competing values on Mr Ravi an officer overseeing bidding process.

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(A) Ethical Issues involved in case

(1) (with respect to Ravi)

① Apparent conflict of Interest
As Ravi's daughter is non executive board member of bidding firm.

② Managing professional integrity and
compulsion towards daughter.

③ Issue of impartiality / Integrity
Ravi has to maintain the impartial image of department as media reports coming on issue.

(2) (with respect to bidder)

① Violation of procedural integrity
by offering Quid Pro Quo to Ravi

② Disregard of public good
As second bidder won't's the contract for profit without ensuring Quality projects

(3) (with respect to Rules / Regulations / Procedures)

Lack of sound regulations to define clearly what amounts to

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Conflict of interest and what not.
(As senior of Ravi said to proceed with the bidding).

⑤ Options Available to Ravi

(Option 1): Rescue from the Bidding

Merit

- ① Upholds procedural integrity.
- ② Objectivity and fairness maintained in eyes of people

Demerit

- ① The second bidder may come into news with the coming ~~offer~~ offer
- ② It may violate right to fair bidding for first bidder.

(Option 2): Go ahead with the bidding as there is no formal requirement under departmental rules for rescue

Merit

- ① The right of all bidders for fair bidding upheld.
- ② The values of personal life (compassion) and professional life (integrity)

Demerit

- ① It may look unfair, non objective to public
- ② May erode public trust in the

is balanced. department

Option 3): Put all facts in public domain
Form objective criterion for bidding,
constitute 3 member committee to
oversee bidding and remove from
bidding process.

Merit

- ① Upheld objectivity and transparency in process.
- ② Upheld ideal of professional integrity.

Demerit

- ① It may be time taking

③ Course of Action that Ravi should take

<u>Action</u>	<u>Justification</u>
① <u>Bring all facts of case into public domain via website or media.</u>	→ It upholds ideal of transparency and bring trust in workers
② <u>Form standard operating procedure for objective bidding.</u>	→ It will <u>root out</u> the chances of <u>quid pro quo</u> as <u>corruption</u> .

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part)

③ Constitute a committee to oversee bidding & rescue from case.

→ ③ It will lead to fair bidding & upheld right of best bidder.

④ Send a report to Chief Secretary

→ ④ Ensuring accountability to State. Also it will help in future reforms in bidding

② Steps to manage competing interests to sustain pressure

① Follow All India Services Conduct Rules

② Follow interests of Public Service (NDAN principles)

③ Adhere to departmental rules & constitutional principles.

④ Developing Emotional Intelligence to sustain pressure.

Also with following values of own (Integrity, honesty) Ravi can manage competing pressure.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
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8. A border district along the Indo-Pak Line of Control has been devastated by continuous cross-border shelling. Villages lie abandoned, homes destroyed, schools shut indefinitely, and farmlands rendered unusable. The displaced population, children, elderly, and daily-wage families, suffers from deep psychological trauma, loss of livelihood, and absence of basic services.

To respond, the administration has established multiple rehabilitation camps under emergency relief protocols. As the newly appointed District Rehabilitation Commissioner, known for your integrity, you are tasked with leading this effort.

However, you soon discover a distressing reality: Relief distribution is marred by corruption, funds are being siphoned off, and material aid is being diverted to private godowns. Caste-based discrimination in compensation lists is rampant and marginalised communities are systematically excluded. Political interference is growing, local leaders demand selective allocation for their vote banks, threatening to stir unrest if their demands aren't met.

Adding to the challenge, vulnerable groups like landless labourers, orphans, the elderly, and differently-abled persons are invisible in the rehabilitation process. You also find that some field officers are indifferent or even complicit, out of fear or political alignment. Meanwhile, the media focuses only on high-profile narratives, ignoring those suffering silently.

- What are the core ethical issues involved in this situation?
- What should be your immediate course of action to ensure fair and transparent relief distribution?
- How can you tactfully manage political interference while upholding neutrality and inclusivity?
- How can an administrator maintain emotional balance and compassion without compromising institutional discipline?

(20 marks, 250 words)

The given case involves corruption in relief delivery, signifying the deterioration of public service.

values at stake:

- Integrity, fairness
- Compassion for needy.

② Some ethical Issues involved

- ① Corruption in relief distribution work (disregard to ideal of integrity / fairness in public service)
- ② Psychological trauma, loss of livelihood of border village people
(Violation of Right to life Article 21)
- ③ Private profiteering from relief work (Violation of laws and Rules - Prevention of Corruption Act 1988)
- ④ Caste based discrimination in relief work
→ It violates right to equality (Article 14)
- ⑤ Political interference in relief work
Violation of ideal of separation of power and non interference in public duty.
- ⑥ Neglect of vulnerable section (differently abled, orphans, elderly etc)
→ Loss of value of compassion & disregard of Article 46 (special care of old age, needy)

⑦ Scrutiny of public duty by officials. They failed to oversee fair, effective implementation of relief work.

⑧ Immediate Course of Action

① Call in public meeting of all stakeholders, media, local civil society groups.

② Devise standard operating procedure for fair distribution of relief work via inputs from all in the same meeting.

③ Constitute teams for relief distribution by incorporating members from civil society in the team.

④ Rope in media to oversee fairness of relief distribution.

⑤ Oversee the overall relief distribution via formation of

governance redress & help and fixing accountability on officials responsible for each team.

① Steps to tactfully manage political interference

① Giving regard of rules, procedures and integrity of process.

② Bringing transparency in the process by including media & Civil Society as stakeholders in process.

② Devising Standard Operating Procedure with help of Civil Society. It will put pressure on political party not to interfere.

④ Clear communication, persuasion to political influencers to not interfere.

⑤ If needed can take the help of law & order via legal action to maintain fairness of process.

- ① Ways to maintain emotional balance and compassion
- ① Developing connect with people to develop compassion and sense of responsibility.
- ② Inculcating Emotional Intelligence via training, value education.
- ③ Taking inspiration from life of great leaders, thinkers.
- ④ Adherence to NOLAN Principles of public life.
- ⑤ Follow Civil Services Code for guidance.
Also with Yoga & mindfulness one can manage stress and manage between competing interests!

Students should not write anything inside the box	
Introduction	Suggestions:
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9. You have recently been appointed as the senior administrative officer overseeing coastal development planning in a remote and ecologically sensitive island region. The area is globally recognized for its marine biodiversity, dense mangrove forests, endangered wildlife, and the presence of indigenous communities that depend on traditional livelihoods closely linked to the land and sea. It is also a haven for rare species of birds and is surrounded by vibrant coral reefs teeming with marine biodiversity. Protected as a biodiversity hotspot, it has long been revered as a sanctuary for conservationists and eco-tourists alike.

A major infrastructure development project has been proposed by a consortium of investors, with support from state authorities. The plan includes a commercial port, luxury tourism infrastructure, and entertainment zones. It is projected to generate significant economic benefits, including employment and increased revenue, and is also being positioned as a strategic asset for maritime trade and national security.

However, environmental experts warn of irreversible ecological damage, including threats to nesting sites, coral reefs, and biodiversity corridors. They argue that the development will irreversibly damage the island's fragile ecosystem.

Furthermore, indigenous communities, including the local Adivasi tribes, express deep concern over the project's impact on their ancestral lands and traditional way of life. They fear that large-scale infrastructure development and an influx of tourists will lead to land grabbing, displacement, and the erosion of their cultural heritage.

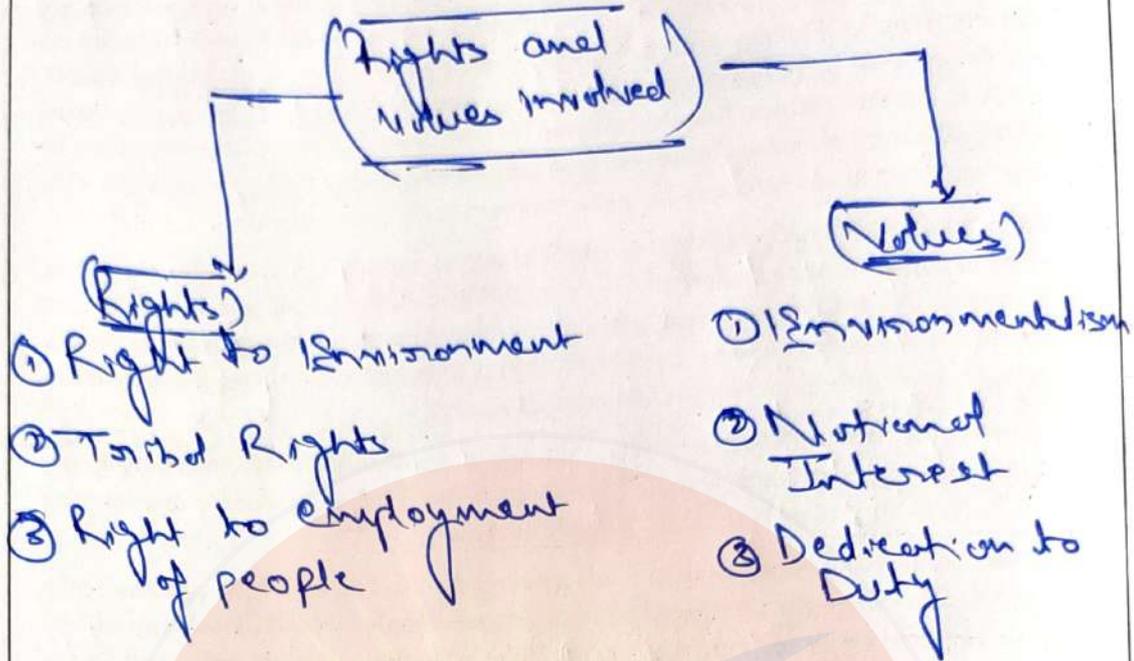
Civil society organizations have petitioned for a comprehensive environmental impact assessment and genuine stakeholder consultation. Whereas supporters of the project highlight its strategic importance for India's economic growth and national security. They argue that the project will enhance India's maritime infrastructure, strengthen coastal security, and stimulate trade and investment in the region.

As the officer responsible for coordinating the project's evaluation and recommendations, you are under pressure from political and corporate interests to fast-track approvals. At the same time, you are aware of your duty to uphold constitutional values, protect vulnerable communities, and ensure sustainable governance.

- (a) What are the core ethical dilemmas present in the case?
- (b) Discuss options available to you and give their merits and demerits.
- (c) As a senior public servant assigned to coordinate the project, outline the steps you would take to ensure ethical and evidence-based governance.
- (d) Suggest long-term policy and institutional reforms that could help resolve such conflicts.

(20 marks, 250 words)

The case involves a balancing of environmental interest, National interest and interest of local Adivasi Tribes.



(i) Core ethical dilemmas in case

1) Environmental Protection vs the National security by the project.

2) Rights of Adivasi Tribes over land vs Rights of larger population for employment by project.

3) Following orders of higher ups for fast forwarding the project vs The safeguard of indigenous community rights.

④ National Interest of trade & commerce safeguard vs constitutional duty to protect vulnerable communities.

⑤ Ensuring timely & efficient completion of project vs ensuring sustainable development.

⑥ Options Available

Option 1: Go ahead with the project as it is related to National Interest.

Merits

- ① It will ensure coastal security
- ② Stimulate the trade & commerce
- ③ Generate employment
- ④ Efficient completion of project.

Demerits

- ① It will violate the Adivasi tribal rights.
- ② It may be environmentally unsustainable
- ③ Goes against idea of Sarvodaya (welfare)

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Option 2): Hold the project as it is violative of environmental & Adivasi rights.

Merits

- ① It upholds the rights of Adivasi Tribe
- ② Environmental sustainability ensured

Demerits

- ① It jeopardise the National interest of safety, trade employment.

Option 3): Conduct proper Environmental Assessment, chalk out the best sustainable plan & Rehabilitate the Adivasi Tribe & wildlife

Merits

- ① Tribal Rights Cared
- ② National interest safeguarded

Demerits

- ① It may be time taking
- ② May incur more cost.

① Steps for ethical & evidence based governance

- ① Collecting all the facts and Informing to all the stakeholders.

- ② Conducting the Proper (EIA).
(to Assess sustainability of Project)

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part)

- ② Take tribals into confidence and assure them of rehabilitation
- ④ Chalk out the rehabilitation plan for Adwasi tribe & wildlife.
- ⑤ Devise the sustainable Project Plan.
- ⑥ Give a nod to complete project.
- ⑧ (Long term policy & reforms needed)
 - ① Proper consultation with the local inhabitants.
 - ② Conducting Social Impact Assessment and Environmental Assessment.
 - ③ Include local people in Project via employment and plan their rehabilitation.
 - ④ Devise a project that is most environmentally & socially viable.
This will lead to safeguard of interest of all and communities.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

10. You are a senior civil servant in the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Your 17-year-old daughter, an intelligent and sensitive student of Class 12, has been an avid follower of popular influencers and motivational speakers. Recently, she became deeply interested in a popular podcast show hosted by a well-known social media figure, Kunal Bhalla. The show claims to champion "free thinking" and covers topics like hustle culture, masculinity, personal transformation, and anti-institutional narratives.

Over time, your daughter's behaviour begins to change. She withdraws from academic interests, begins idolising internet influencers, and adopts rigid opinions about success, failure, and mental health. She starts rejecting family advice, refuses to appear for her board preparatory exams, and argues that "school is irrelevant in the age of free minds." Concerned, you and your spouse try to reason with her, but she accuses you of being "closed-minded."

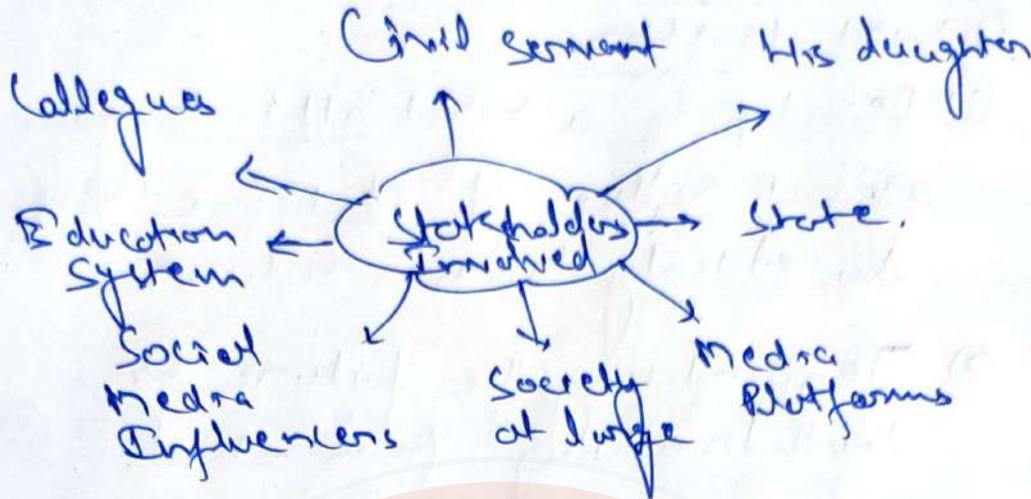
Matters come to head when you are alerted by your ministry's media monitoring cell about a viral video clip where your daughter is seen giving an interview on a fringe podcast platform, endorsing radical views on education, politics, and civil services. The clip drew public attention because of your designation, and journalists began speculating about a "generational rebellion" within the bureaucracy.

Meanwhile, the influencer, Kunal Bhalla, publicly praises your daughter as "the new voice of youth dissent," but refuses to take accountability for his platform's role in shaping her worldview. Social media is split, some defend her right to free thought, while others accuse such influencers of normalising disrespect for institutions and romanticizing shallow intellectualism. Your colleagues advice silence, but your daughter now wants to drop out of school and intern with a podcast network.

- What are the key ethical issues involved in the way "free thinking" is promoted by influencers on social media, especially for impressionable youth?
- What should be the role of public figures in responding to the misuse or distortion of influential platforms in the name of free expression?
- Suggest a policy framework or guidelines for responsible influencer content aimed at youth without curbing intellectual freedom.

(20 marks, 250 words)

The case involves the misuse of digital platforms by social media influencers to propagate wrong ideas in name of free thinking



① Key ethical Issues involved

① What social media influencers

① Violation of Constitutional morality by promoting anti institutionalism.

② Violation of Civic duty to promote Peace, unity in society.

③ Irresponsible behaviour violating Child rights to schooling (As daughter wants to withdraw from school)

② What social media platforms

① Irresponsible behaviour / Attitude to not check content they support.

① Worst daughter

- ① Developing a rigid attitude goes against value of obedience / respect to elderly (Indian values).
- ② Jeopardising the future by bullying from school.

② Role of public figures need to

- ① Respect the Constitutional morality.
- ② Be responsible to society.
- ③ Maintain societal order, peace, unity.
- ④ Stop the actions / practices that goes against interest of society's Nation at large.
- ⑤ Be open to criticism, accept one's mistakes and tender sincere apology.
- ⑥ Involve others in the debate, discussion to evolve right ideas.

① Policy framework

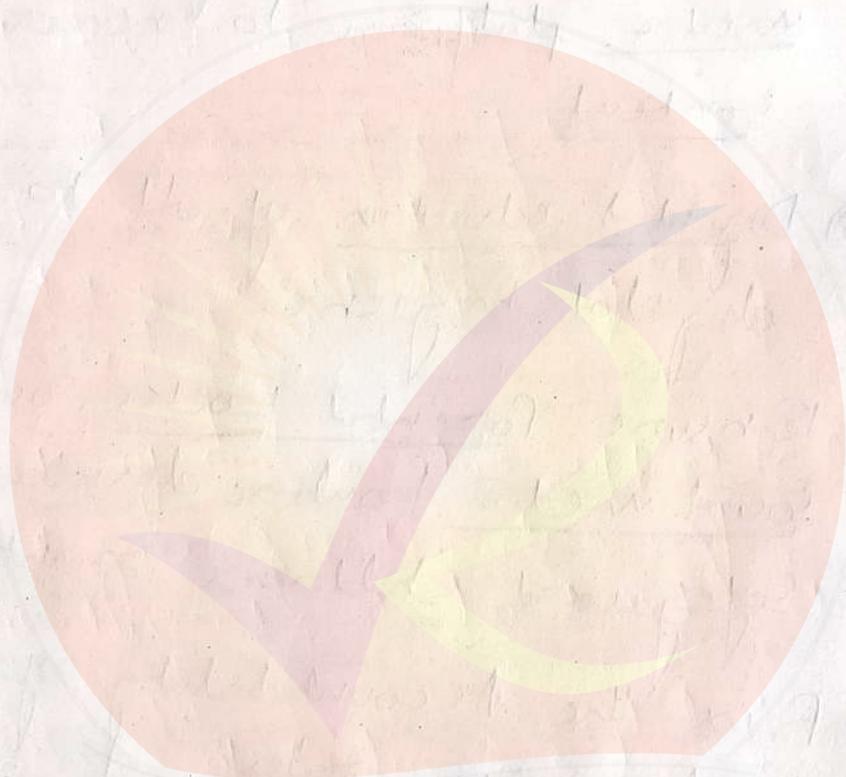
- ① IT Rules 2020 and Digital Media Ethics Rules to ensure content do not violate the sovereignty
- ② Fix responsibility on social media platform to remove flagged content
- ③ Digital education of all to ensure digital hygiene.
- ④ Ensure Parental Locks on the social media / online devices to safeguard children's rights.
- ⑤ Fix the accountability of content creators via rules.
- ⑥ Guidelines for content creating via digital media ethics code
This will ensure the freedom of speech & expression in balance with rights of all.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part)

(Don't write anything in this part)



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Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
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Marks:	

11. Raghav is the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of a fast-growing tech company in South Asia that designs and deploys AI systems for public services like education and policing. Recently, the company secured a large government contract to implement facial recognition and predictive analytics systems in public schools and police departments.

The project is significant for the company's growth and is being closely monitored by international investors and government agencies. However, two major concerns have emerged.

First, internal audits show that the AI systems are not adequately trained on local data. They frequently misidentify individuals from tribal and minority backgrounds and unfairly flag behavioral issues among students from these communities. The software also lacks support for vernacular languages and neurodivergent users, raising concerns about exclusion and discrimination.

Second, environmental groups have raised objections to the company's rising carbon footprint due to the expansion of energy-intensive data centers. There has been a 42% increase in emissions over the last two years.

Raghav now faces a serious ethical dilemma: whether to push ahead with deployment to maintain momentum and company interests, or pause and resolve these concerns, knowing it may slow down progress and create internal friction.

- (a) Identify and discuss the ethical issues involved in the case.
- (b) Critically examine the options available to Raghav in this situation.
- (c) Which of the above options should Raghav adopt and why? Justify your answer using principles of ethics and professional responsibility.

(20 marks, 250 words)

The case involves a balance between interest of Company's environmental Rights along with making AI model non biased.

(Values involved)

- ① Non discrimination.
- ② Environmental ethics
- ③ Corporate ethics.

① Ethical Issues in the case

- ① AI not trained on local data
(may lead to wrong results)
- ② Issue of misidentification.
(may lead to violation of rights of innocent people).
- ③ Ethical issue of profiling of tribal \rightarrow minority groups.
(violates right to equality & privacy).
- ④ Lack of vernacular support in AI
(It goes against value of multilinguality & local interests)
- ⑤ Concerns of exclusion & discrimination
(goes against idea of constitutional morality & socialism)
- ⑥ Not environmentally sound (42% emission)
It goes against environmental ethics.

③ Options Available to Raghav

① Option 1: Go ahead with the project.

Merit

- ① Timely AR deployment
- ② Saving companies interest

Demerit

- ① Violating the Rights of tribals & minorities to equality
- ② Violation of Environmental Sustainability Principle.

② Option 2: Stop the project altogether citing issues of carbon emission, AR laws.

Merit

- ① Upholding the Environmental ethics
- ② Upholding the rights of tribal & minority people.

Demerit

- ① Goes against duty of Raghav to come up with sound solution.
- ② It jeopardise company's future.

Option 3: Bring Changes in the AI model, deply local language model and adopt green energy solution for AI

Merit

- ① Solve issue of AI Bias, local language.
- ② Ensure environmental feasibility

Demerit

- ① May be time taking.
- ② May involve more cost

① Option 3 will be chosen

Reasons

- ① Upholding the constituted morality of Non bias AI model.
- ② Upholding the Kantian Principle of Deontology (Right means to conduct) business

③ Upholding the Gandhian Sarvodaya (Including all the local language model).

④ Fulfilling the environmental ethics goal.

Making AI model more green & climate friendly

⑤ Upholding the Professional duty (Websterian ethics)

by coming up with the right solutions.

Thus with following the ethics of equality, inclusivity and environmental sustainability interest of all will be served.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
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Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

12. A senior IAS officer, recently appointed as chairperson of the NCR Clean Air Mission, is tasked with addressing the escalating air pollution crisis in Delhi and neighboring regions, where the Air Quality Index has reached hazardous levels. Scientific assessments point to multiple contributors, i.e., stubble burning in nearby states, construction-related dust, industrial emissions, and diesel vehicle traffic.

The officer proposes strict, time-bound restrictions, including suspending construction activities, limiting vehicular movement, and enforcing crop-residue burning bans. However, these measures attract strong opposition from various stakeholders. Farmers cite a lack of alternatives, real estate bodies warn of large-scale job losses, transport unions threaten strikes, and political authorities express concerns over the potential impact on upcoming international investment events.

Meanwhile, health experts caution that delays will result in severe public health consequences, especially for children and the elderly. The media criticizes the measures as elitist and anti-poor. Caught between conflicting imperatives, i.e., environmental protection, economic livelihood, public health, and political viability, the officer must now make a decision.

- What are the options available to the officer to tackle the situation effectively?
- What core values and principles should guide decision-making in this scenario?
- In such situations, what long-term institutional reforms would you suggest to reconcile environmental protection with developmental imperatives?

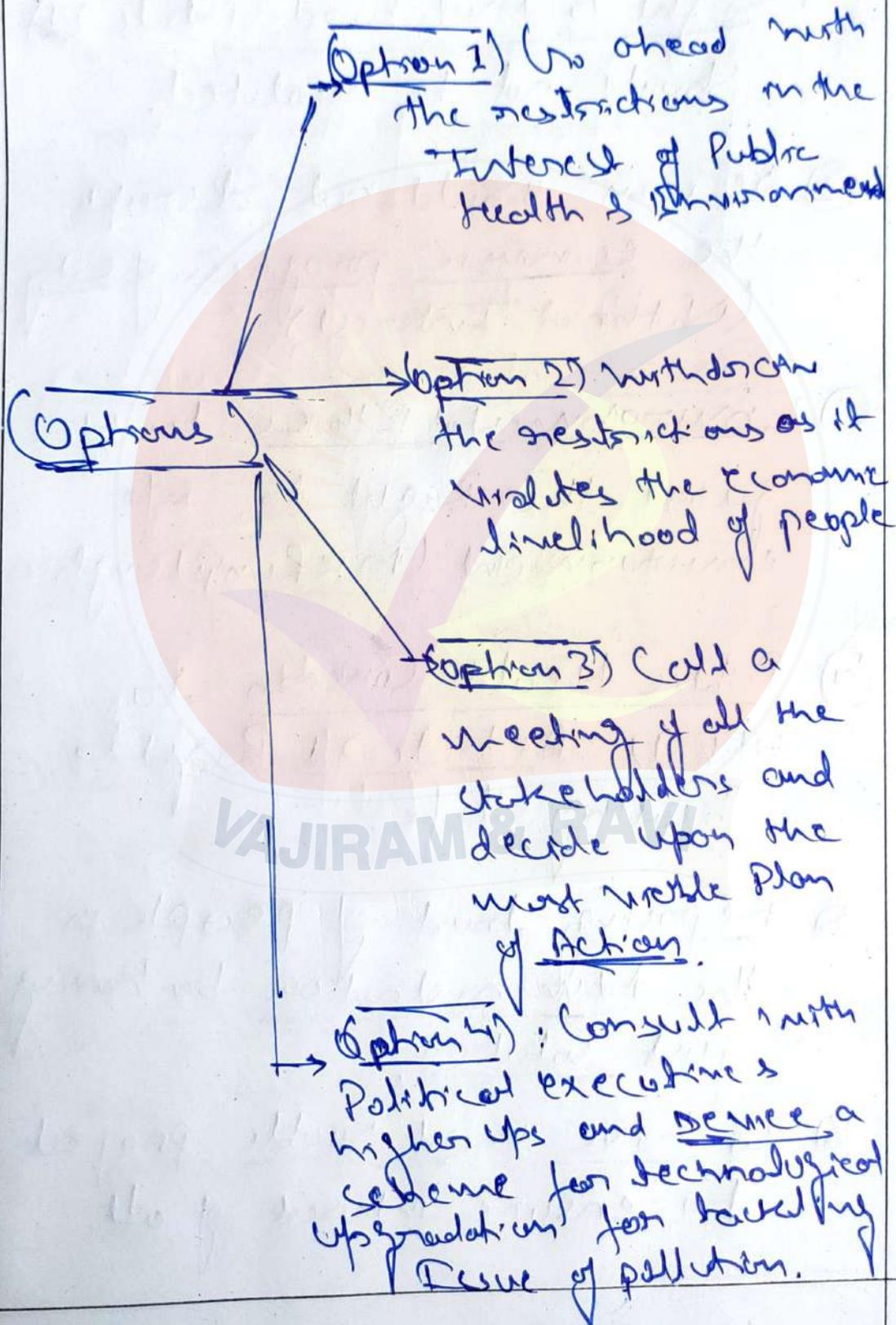
(20 marks, 250 words)

The case involves balance between interest of people's health, livelihood of people and environmental sustainability of economy.

Values involved

- ① Right to health
- ② Environmental ethics
- ③ Public duty.

a) Options Available to officer:



② Core values & Principles to guide in this case

① Right to livelihood (Article 21) should not be violated.

② Decision should not disrupt the economic progress of city (National Interest).

③ Environmental Ethics to safeguard the Right to safe environment (M.R. Renujitsingh case)

④ Public Health concern to uphold Article 21 Right to healthy life.

⑤ Reposing trust of people in the administration by having just solution.

⑥ To have most viable project to ensure interest of all.

⑦ A mix of Kantian deontology and Bentham's utilitarianism (safeguard environment along with livelihood protection)

⑧ Long term reforms needed

① Bring policy on stubble burning

② Adopt a policy on diesel vehicles (ie Pollution check etc)

③ Bring Green mobility via adoption of e-vehicles.

④ Have code of ethics for construction sites to reduce pollution.

⑤ Bring Policy for upgrading the Anti pollution technology in the industry.

(Don't write anything in this part)

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⑥ Bring citizens awareness about environment protection

⑦ Promote

→ Reduce of things to save environment

→ Reduce of emission at home (switching off lights)

→ Recycling for waste disposal.

This will safeguard the interest of all for sustainable future.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
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Marks:	

Space for Rough Work



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Space for Rough Work



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