

General Studies Full Length Test Test - 4 (GS - 4) Test Code - VR1054504	Evaluator Code: Date of Assignment: CQ:
---	--

NAME:

BASAVARAT JAWALI

Time allowed: 180 Minutes

ADMIN. NO.:

19VR19323

Email:

MOBILE NO.:

Submission
Date:

14/07/2025

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 - 3:05 PM.

End Time -

Mode of Examination Offline

Online Offline

Receiving date

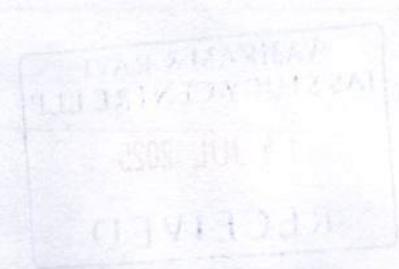
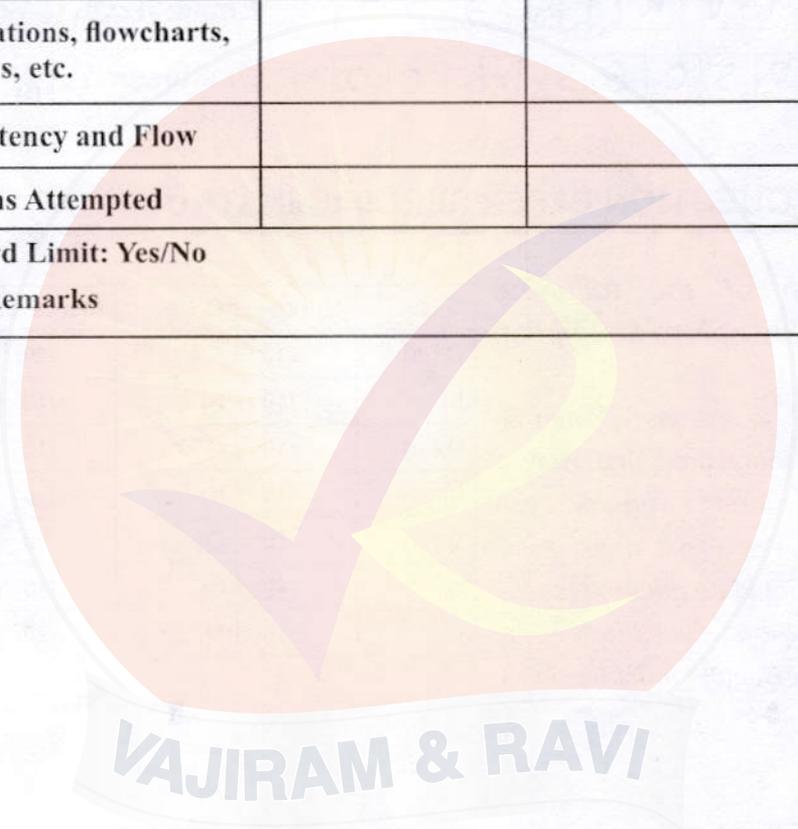
VAJIRAM & RAVI
IAS STUDY CENTRE LLP

Dispatch date -

14 JUL 2025

RECEIVED

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 				



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)

Nolan committee gives 7 foundation
Civil Service values for ethical governance.
Integrity, honesty, impartiality, non-partisanship
accountability, selflessness and objectivity
are foundational values

Integrity: Adherence to ethical values all the time.

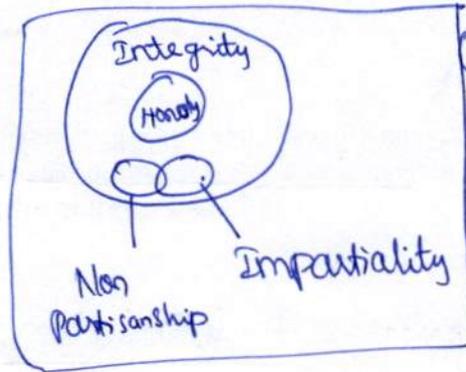
Honesty: being truthful to ones own convictions.

Impartiality: Absence of partiality/biases

Non-partisanship: Decision not affected by any party to conflict.

- Eg: a) Admitting about telling lies is Honesty
b) Not committing it in first place is integrity
c) Decision on merit is impartiality eg: EC
d) Treating everyone equal is non-partisanship
eg: Art 14 Constitution

Interdependence of foundational values



① Integrity is larger term encompassing all values.

Eg: Sir. M. Vishweshwaraiah used his personal candles for personal work in office tours.

② Impartiality, non-partisanship and honesty adds up to integrity

Eg: Dharmaraja in Mahabharath Didn't even favour brothers in adjudicating. (Nishiketa stones)

③ Integrity in turn adds value to all others.

Eg: Integrity of Election Commission adds public trust, good work environment and impartiality of officers.
All these values will turn "Rajneeti to Lok neeti" (People's rule)

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

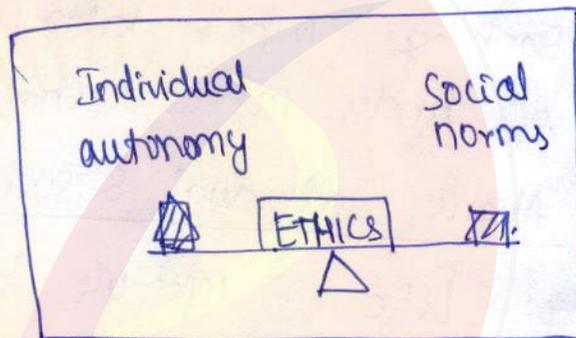
(b) "The essence of ethics in human actions involves a balance between individual autonomy and societal norms". Examine this statement by exploring how ethical frameworks reconcile personal freedom with social responsibility.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Ethics is doing the right thing
when no one is watching you
- C. S. Lewis

Ethics as balance between individual autonomy and societal norms

Ethics always looks for "summum bonum" (welfare of all).



Eg: Environmental ethics: Good environment across geography & generations.

① Ethics help in solving ethical dilemmas

Personal duty Vs Professional duty

Eg: Sardar Patel finished his argument in court even when he heard news of his wife's death.

VAJIRAM & RAVI

② Choosing between means and ends

Eg: In tribal relocation during mining in Jharkhand. Eco-centrism was followed

③ Upholding Constitutional morality

Ethics balances social norms & autonomy

Eg: Hadia case: Right to choose partner (A14)

④ In reforming unethical practices:

Eg: Banning Triple talak by morality of gender justice (Shahira Bano case)

⑤ Aligns individual & social conscience:

Eg: Life: lifestyle for environment

Helps in long term sustainability

Sometimes social norms overpower individual

ethics Eg: Patriarchal norms (why only maternity leaves - No paternity leaves)

We must balance both by adhering to Meta ethical with Normative ethics as tool

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
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 is the highest court of all courts
- Mahatma Gandhi

Conscience as Universal moral Compass

1) Conscience acts as foundation for character



Eg: Conscience of Rajaram Mohan Roy led him to Renaissance of social reforms

(2) Conscience as ethical guide/moral compass

⇒ Help in choosing between dilemmas

⇒ It chooses ends over means

Eg: ~~the~~ T.N. Sheshans Conscience in reforming ECI with courage

(3) It helps in dealing with others

It is fuel to emotional conscience

Eg: societies in 'persuading others for reflection'

(4) 'Knowing oneself is highest wisdom'

Thus conscience acts as Universal moral compass

VAJIRAM & RAVI

However it is shaped by ~~the~~ society and upbringing

① Family & siblings
AP.J Abdul Kalam's tolerance by father

② Teachers & schooling
eg Keralas Ethics store : No shopkeeper.

③ Social circumstances :
eg: Jadav payeng moved by deforestation became Forest man

④ Friendships :
Srikrishna's humbleness by Sudhama's friendship in Mahabharatha.

⑤ National laws
eg: Killing Aryans was norm in Nazi camps.

Thus conscience shaped by surrounding upbringing along with self reflection, perceptions becomes ones moral compass

Students should not write anything inside the box	
Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

(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)

Indian ancient philosophies are treasures for human conduct as well as governance helping to balance development & ecological sustainability

For instance

① Jainism and Buddhism :

Propagated for peace and non-violence.

=> Protection of animals and nature

Eg: National parks development.

② Mahabharatha :

"Vanadevi is worshipped before going into Agnatavasa"

Refers forest as God. Eco-devinity

Forest policy making.

③ Yoga philosophy :

"Human body in resonance with nature" Treats both as one

Policy makers: Treat nature as equal being

SC in recent case on Hornbills

④ Upanishads

Prakrithi Rakshitaha Rakshite

"Nature protected will protect us"

Eg: Environmental Impact Assessment Policy

⑤ Veda : It worships all nature elements. Agni, Vayu, Soma, Shashi all are gods to be worshipped.

⑥ Tribal philosophies : Nature-Man-Spirit complex
Gonds consider Nature as ancestor spirits

New additions

Administrators must also include new aspects such as technology, Social justice, constitutional morality in taking decision to protect nature & development.

"Our economy depends on our environment" Hon. PM Modi, @ UNited Nations

Students should not write anything inside the box	
Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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

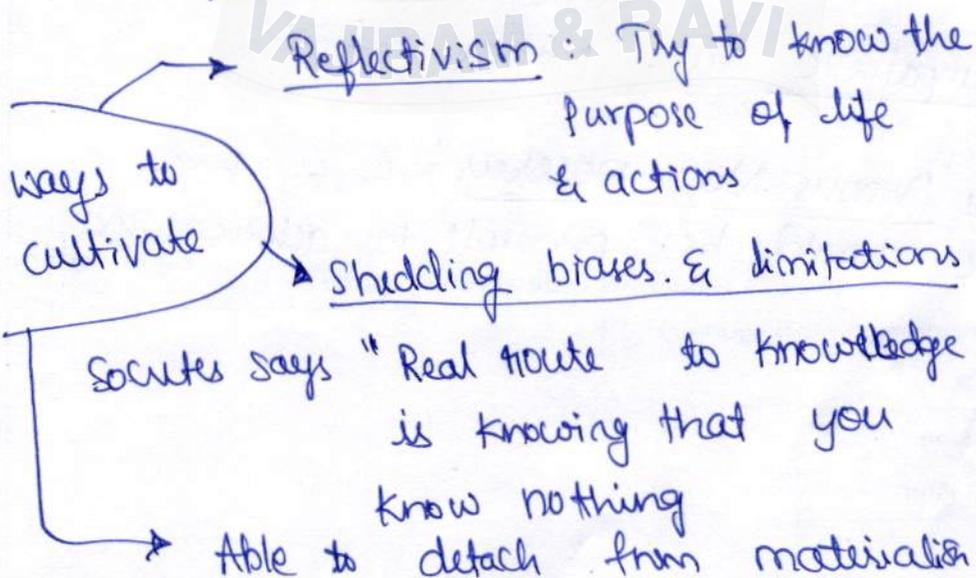
(a) Cultivation of mind should be the ultimate aim of human existence.—Dr. B. R. Ambedkar
(10 marks, 150 words)

In the above quote Dr. Ambedkar quotes how cultivation of mind that is self reflection, reformation enhances human existence towards end goal.

Cultivation of mind

It means helping humans to develop oneself mentally, to be able to think freely, act independently and achieve her complete potential

Eg: ~~Buddha~~ ^{Gautama} cultivated his mind to become Buddha.



Why ~~the~~ cultivation of mind is ultimate aim of human existence ?

- ① Helps us to liberate (Nirvana) from worldly boundaries
Eg: Basavanna in 12th century
- ② True meaning to existence
Eg: Bhagath Singh overcoming his fear by cultivating mind
- ③ Atman becomes Bramhan :
↳ Monotheism guided by Shankaracharya
Eg: Sri-Chaitanya Prabhu

In today's world, cultivation of mind is

- ① Ethical education in schools
- ② Altruism : Tesla releasing patients on electric car
- ③ Empathetic soul : Mother Teresa.

④ "Primum Non nocere" First harm none should be principle to achieve mind cultivation

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

VAJIRAM & RAVI

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

Braveness is not absence of cowardice but overcoming cowardice through conscious practice.

Coward calls brave man rash

- ① Doing unthinkable
Brave does what coward don't even think.
Eg: Roger bannister ran a mile under 4 mins (medically impossible)
- ② Breaks social norms
Eg: Rosa parker protesting for her rights in bus
- ③ Gets sanctions of society & law
Eg: Baga jatin in Zommonian plan to overthrow British in 1914.
- ④ They don't play by the rules
Eg: Nelson Mandela going against British

Thus Brave man always seems rash in the society

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Rash man calls coward a Coward

- ① They never reach/see their full potential.
Eg: Vidura in Mahabharatha
- ② They amount much in society we never hear story of coward
- ③ They try to "fit in boundary"
Becomes "frog of well" in Panchatantra Story
- ④ No changes in them as well as society
Today's "keyboard warriors" in twitter
Only limited to online activism.

We as a society must abide by Rules & Regulations but those must be questioned by brave if there are discrepancies

Only then we can move forward.
"All that need for bad to triumph is good mens silence" — R. Russel.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

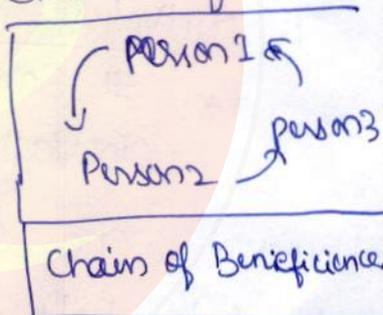
(c) Beneficence is a duty. He who frequently practices it, and sees his benevolent intentions realized, at length comes really to love him to whom he has done good- Immanuel Kant
(10 marks, 150 words)

Through about quote Immanuel Kant is telling that this world is like a "circle of wheel" what goes around definitely comes back

Beneficence is duty of man

① Man is social animal. He depends on others, creating a chain of dependencies.

Book: Homo Oeconomicus by Y. Nohal Harari.



② As Dharmashastra says it is duty to serve others - Rina to be returned. Eg: Pitra rina, Guru rina.

③ Ultimate purpose of human is to be useful in society - Aristotle

Being useful = Beneficent to others

Benevolence Coming back at length

① world follows "conservation of energy" as principle

Eg: You give a roti to dog it never forgets.

② Times change & we also need help

Eg: India helping world "Vaccine maatri" got its humanitarian credibility

③ Benevolence is like atomic reaction "multiplies endlessly"

Eg: # Save Himalaya Campaign in Ladakh increasing tourism (ethical tourism)

However one should act as "selfless soul" while helping others. Ultimately "Nishkama Karma" should guide us

rather than expecting something in return. like Baba Amte

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Sugestions:
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 useful servant but a dangerous master". A. Einstein.

Technology's neutrality until application

⊕ Technology is just a tool - soulless
no intelligence of its own & no intention
at all.

⊕ We through using gives it meaning.

Eg:

AI in education	AI in wars
Good/Ethical	Unethical.

Ethical challenges posed by AI and data privacy

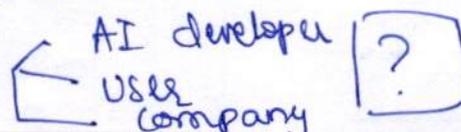
I AI challenges:

① Human biasness in AI:

Eg: AI face tech not recognizing dark skin

② Accountability of AI:

Eg: New obscene content. Who must be held accountable



③ AI divide

Between who can use and not use.

Eg: USA and Africa.

④ AI and environmental ethics

As per UNFCCC AI consumes 4% of world's energy needs today, 20% by 2040

Data Privacy

→ No Comprehensive laws

Eg: India's IT rules, DPDR act.
- No AI law

→ Interboundary flow

No boundaries for data flow.

Eg: Cambridge Analytica & Russia role (alleged)

MASSIVE companies

NVIDIA richer than 190 countries

Increases Inevitability.

sensitive

Any tech must

Monizable



Privacy

& keep humanity at

Accountable

Responsible

the centre without which it becomes a futile tool.

Students should not write anything inside the box

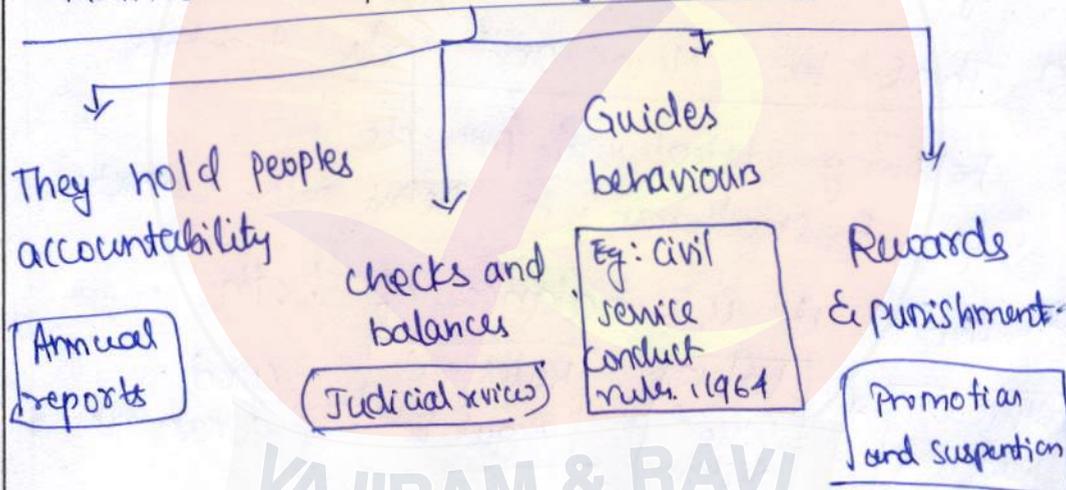
Introduction
Body
Conclusion
Presentation
Marks:

Suggestions:

(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)

Leaders are top decision makers affecting all the organization as Kautilya says "Yatha Rajah tatha Prajah"
As leader as employees in modern sense

Rules and procedure essential for institutional functioning



Ethical leadership and value based discretion as foundation for institution

① They set ethical work culture motivates (promotes) all workers wellfaism
Eg: APJ Abdul Kalam at DRDO (Missile man of India)

(Don't write anything in this part)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

② They set long term sustainable goals

Eg: India's goal for Net zero carbon by 2070 by Life Programme

③ They lead by example

Eg: Lal Bahadur Shastri refusing gift from Boree factory when he was PM.

⇒ upheld integrity & selflessness

④ They bring innovation :

Eg: Prakashan Ape Dwar by Rekha, IAS.

⑤ Think for Means and ends together

Following teleological principle

Eg: E. Sreedharan in Delhi metro completion

Hence it is balance of both

Ethical leadership	+	Value Based decision	+	Rules and Regulation	=	Good governance.
--------------------	---	----------------------	---	----------------------	---	------------------

Values like Emotional intelligence, moral training can enhance ethical values and compliance in institution

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)

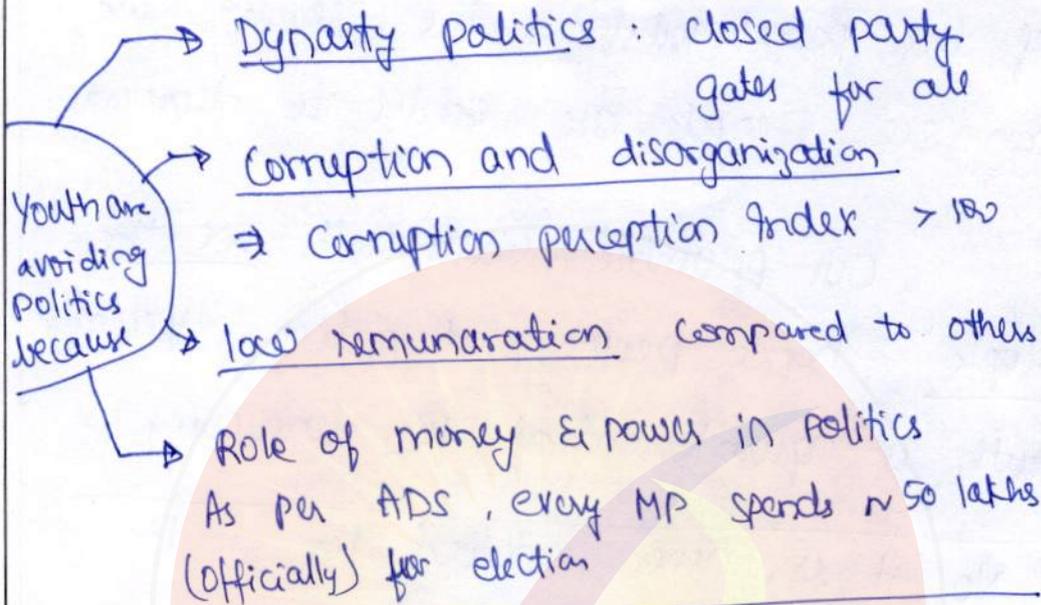
Democracy is rule by the people, of the people and for the people. We can see people are centre to democracy.

Our preamble starts with "we the people" hence people participation especially youth is quintessential for democracy.

No, it is never justified for youth to remain apolitical in democracy

- ① Youth are nerve of country in economy, politics & social progress
"we are seeing "demographic dividend"
- ② Youth creates "demand" which is managed by "political democracy"
eg: Employment issue
- ③ Youth brings insiders perspective of current age problems
= Avg age of MP is ~ 50 years } 20 years
Avg age of Indian ~ 30 years } gap.

④ Youth have fundamental right (Art 14) and duty (Art 51A) to actively participate in nation building.



Bringing youth to politics & decide moral fabric of Nation

- ① Create role models : Youth parliament.
- ② Education to all politicians : to remove stigma
- ③ Term limit to politicians : similar to France (only twice)

As Gandhi says we must adopt 'Politics with principles' to enhance effectiveness

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 situation where civil servants must choose between two wrongs or two rights where choosing one will hurt others.

Moral dilemmas faced by civil servants

① Personal duty Vs Professional ethics

Eg: Many doctors during COVID-19 had to stay in hospitals leaving behind all personal life.

② Rule of law Vs Societal norms

Eg: While dismantling a religious structure for road construction

③ Loyalty to seniors or Upholding integrity

Eg: oral orders during crisis situations which compromise values

① During emergency civil servants were forced to jail some activists.

Ethical Framework to resolve moral dilemmas

① Constitutional morality :

To uphold values of our Constitution

Eg: Operation Sindhoor "protecting national integrity"

② Values of civil servant (IInd ARC)

Integrity, accountability, dedication to public

servant. Eg: Rakesh Rathod (IPS) solving a communal clash (courage)

③ Plato's ~~Aristotle's~~ Cardinal virtues :

Wisdom, Courage, Temperance & Justice

④ Value of "Bharat Dharma Sambhava" "welfare of all"

⑤ As Rabindranath Tagore says
"Humanity" must be core of any act of civil servant.

Emotional intelligence & Sympathy are core values which bring civil servants close to people must also be kept in mind.

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)

Recently Albania's boxer Mar Amiri's gold medal win became a controversial news triggering news of fairness vs gender inclusivity.

Ethical dimensions involved in transgender athletes in women sports

① Equity and Equality

⇒ Treating unequals as equal is injustice
Transgender & women are built differently.

② Question of self declaration rights?

⇒ Many countries allow person's discretion to declare as transgender.
Until the person declares it is what it is

Gender is social construct not biological

③ Fairness in competition:

Due to different build.

④ Violates rules of "International Olympic Commission" "Rule of law"

⇒ Mixing genders

Fairness or inclusion

There should be right balance of both by ① creating a separate category based on hormone levels.

Eg: An upper limit of testosterone in women in olympics

② Right to declare before event:

Presently there are no clear laws
→ It must be made clear & prior testing to determine category

Eg: weight categories in Boxing.

③ Inclusion must motto of Sports

Create separate category to include all

Eg: we have it in paraolympics.

④ Bring international laws to be transparent

"Sabka Sath & Sabka Vikas" with sports as our "New Sports Policy" 2025 parts weight for inclusivity

Students should not write anything inside the box

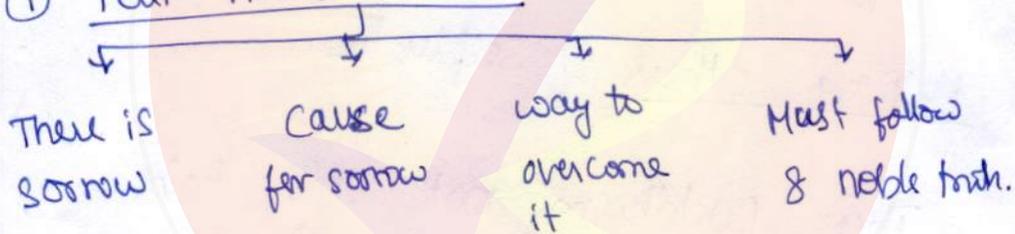
Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

(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)

Buddhism is one of the oldest religion born in India & advocated by Gautam Buddha by "Madhyam marg" as its core tenet.

Buddhist Principles guiding public servants balancing personal & professional duty

① Four noble truths



④ Helps in developing right conscience to read problems in people.

⑤ Developing compassion & sympathy.

Eg: Divya derarajan learnt tribal language to solve their problems

② 8 fold paths :

⇒ Right, conscience, Right mindset, Right speech, Right conduct

Helps in upholding integrity at all the time

Eg: Satyendra Dubey in unravelling Corruption.

③ Peace and non-violence

→ In international diplomacy

Eg: Panchasheel Principle, Gujral doctrine

④ Meditation: Vipassana

To be able to handle stress in stressful situation

Eg: New York police in meditation

④ Helping others : selflessly

Thus Buddhism not only helps in guiding civil servants during crisis

but also helps it to expose themselves

for becoming greater souls for better tomorrow

Students should not write anything inside the box	
Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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.

- Identify and discuss the ethical issues involved in this case.
- What are the options available to Ravi? Evaluate each with respect to ethical principles such as objectivity, integrity, accountability, and transparency.
- What course of action should Ravi take to uphold both procedural propriety and public trust? Justify your decision using ethical reasoning.
- 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 above case study highlights ethical dilemma of a officer who is caught between Professional integrity and personal conflicts while performing duty.

(a) Ethical issues involved in case

① Ravi's ethical dilemma of refusal or continuance

Since his daughter involved in deal.

② Rule of law Vs conscience

No formal need to act on it but Ravi's conscience must balance both.

③ Offering Corruption by second bidder

In terms of favours, consultancy role and involving political pressure.

④ Media pressure and public perception

Over Ravi's conduct & role of his daughter

(b) Options available to Ravi

① Continue with choosing bidder with technical advantage

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Merits	Demerits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">① Choosing the best bidder - economical and objective② Not budging to pressure => <u>Courage of conviction</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">① <u>lack of transparency</u> in process② <u>Accountability</u> seems to be eroded in eyes of media
② <u>Reject first bidder & choose second one</u>	

Merits	Demerits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">① No media questions② Avoids <u>ethical dilemma</u> of involving family member in bid.③ Good right terms with politician (benefits)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">① loss to the exchequer② Bad precedent and creates chain of corruption③ Health issues not solved.

③ A median path to open bidding & transparent updates in website

Merits

- ① Increased transparency in process
- ② Solves family dilemma
- ③ Media gets to monitor deal

Demerits

- ① Departmental approval needed
- ① May open details of Patients to public (Privacy concern)

(c) Course of action of Ravi

- ① He must Do open online bidding
↓
Declare his family members role in company
↓
Ask for another neutral members in team to select bidder (co-officers)
↓
Update details to website regularly

Never budge to politicians words or any offers. This upholds integrity
increases

- Public trust
- Transparency in process
- Just use of public money

(d) Ravi managing competing pressure

- ① Must listen to his conscience
→ It is highest guide to person
- ② Follows rules & laws by word and spirit.
⇒; civil conduct rules.
- ③ Take seniors suggestion & mentorship
- ④ Uphold foundational values.
Integrity, objectivity & transparency
- ⑤ Long term gains over short term
Public health as core concern of case study in long run.
"Thus Person should always listen to conscience guided by Constitutional morality" for ethical governance

Students should not write anything inside the box	
Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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.

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

(20 marks, 250 words)

The entire case study highlights how subaltern groups are neglected in a systematically corrupt, disorganized and partitioned governance highlighting failure of providing basic services as noted in ethos of our constitution - Preamble

(a) Core ethical issues

- ① Rampant Corruption
Siphoning rations & materials
- ② Politicization of relief measures
→ To give benefit to selected people
- ③ Unethical & cowardice behaviour of officials (Bad work environment)
→ To be feared by politicians
- ④ Caste based discrimination
⇒ Against Art 14, 15 and 17.
- ⑤ Blind media
Running behind TRP journalism
- ⑥ Failure of state as a relief provider
⇒ Erodes public trust on system

(b) Immediate course of action

- ① Quick meeting with officials to note down data, how things are going
(Understanding full situation)

- ② A media report to give warning to all hiding culprits
⇒ Transparency in relief money, allocation, & usage
- ③ Taking action on corrupt officials
- ① setting up commission to oversee deeds headed by myself and DM
 - ② warning & notice to all past happenings
 - ③ A comprehensive report on past deeds
- ④ Removing caste based discrimination
⇒ Allocation on need basis & priority basis (Art 46: Help vulnerable first)
⇒ separate desks for elderly, children and women.
- ⑤ Retrieving siphoned goods with the help of police
= charge under Prevention of Corruption Act.
- ⑥ A war room with all stakeholders to deal matters meticulously

(c) Managing political interference tactfully

- ① Involve media in every gathering with highlighting all sides
- ② Ask for written directions instead of oral.
- ③ Showing some "courage of conviction" (Plato's cardinal virtue) to say **NO TO CORRUPTION**
- ④ e-governance to enhance transparency.
- ⑤ Taking help from senior officials to guide in critical matters
- ⑥ Involve politicians, local leaders in a inclusive plan implementation.
(A overseeing committee.)

(d) Administrator maintaining emotional balance without compromising on values

- ① Tap on to laws of land
They guide us in critical conditions

VAJIRAM & RAVI

- ② Remember why did. he join service
=> self dedication to serve people brings best in tough situations
- ③ Seek guidance from mentors, local leaders and well wishers
- ④ Self-discipline & integrity, Compassion
Eg: Prashant Nair's "Compassionate kozikode" to reduce food shortage
- ⑤ Refer Code of ethics & Code of Conduct
Eg: Code of ethics IInd ARC.
- ⑥ Self reflection & mental Calmness
Meditation. Contemplation.

Thus a civil servant must always work for "welfare of people" without any partisanship to bring effective governance.

Students should not write anything inside the box	
Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

(Don't write anything in this part)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

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 above case study is similar to that of Nicobar development project in India, a dilemma between eco-conservation and economic & strategic importance

(a) Core ethical dilemmas

① Environment Vs Economy

A classic debate of environment sacrificing for economy or vice versa

② Local traditional life Vs Strategic importance

⇒ Adivas's way of life is disturbed for national strategic project.

③ Right to life for marine biodiversity

④ National security Vs Bio-conservation

A strategic port help in securing oceans for future reference

⑤ Loyalty Vs Rule of law

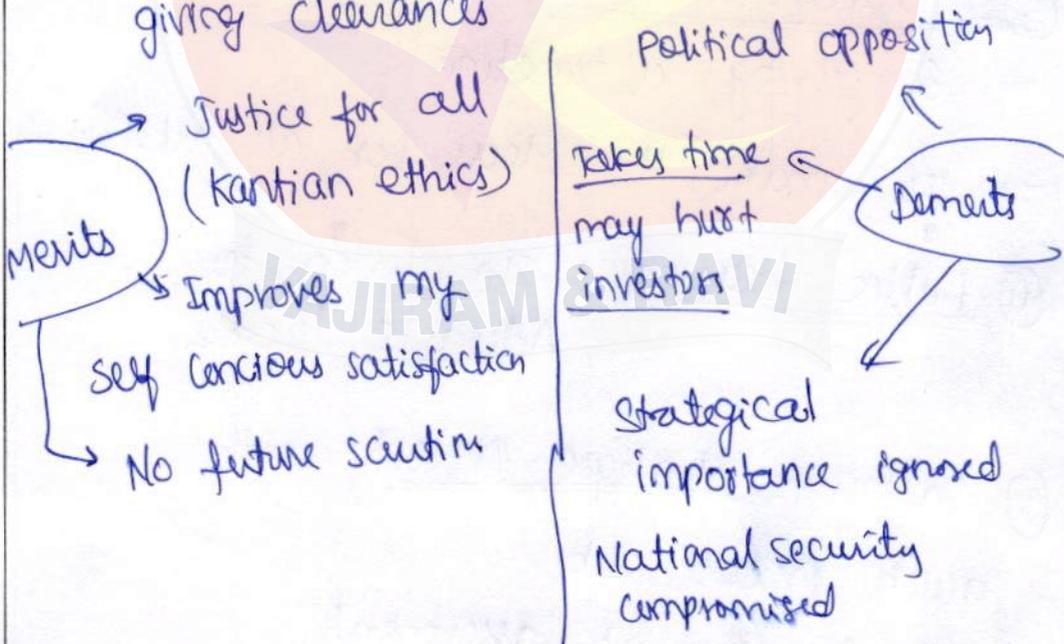
My loyalty to political rule to fasten the process Vs following due process of law.

(b) Options available to me

① Quickly approve clearances



(2) Follow due process of law in giving clearances



(c) Steps I would take to ensure ethical & evidence based governance

① Follow law of land as it is

Use laws like ① Environment Impact assessment

② social impact assessments

② Involve non-state actors like NGOs, universities, for evidence based approach

⇒ Upholds inclusivity

③ Transparency in report making & giving a timeline

⇒ To make it clear for all stakeholders

④ Public hearing : To listen to Adivasis locals

⑤ Balancing strategic project with quick process like

⇒ Rapid Environment assessment

⇒ Special Rehabilitation under 2013

Rehabilitation act

(d) long term measures & policy reforms

① set up a monitoring centre to study impact of project on environment

Eg: Centre for Ocean studies

② Reduce environment impact with bio-based construction Eg: Blue-Green infra (Carbon zero building)

→ ⇒ securing biodiversity hotspots

③ Rehabilitation of Adivasis to similar environment (if necessary)

Allowing them to continue traditional practices (Right to Migration 25)

Prakriti Rakshita Rakshite and DPSP

Art 48 dictates to protect environment along with balancing economy & strategic importance

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

(Don't write anything in this part)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

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)

3D's - Debate, discuss and Dissent
are core values of democracy provided
under Art 19(1)(a) of our
Constitution.

(a) Ethical issues involved in way of "free thinking" by influencers

① No consent or approval by any overseeing authority:

⇒ Unlike media they are not under anyones watch directly

② wide reach to youth: who are like clean slate

⇒ In this case 17 year old: legally minor: opens up legal loophole

③ No censor (pre or post video)

⇒ creates a "shadow territory" of media

④ Viral based content

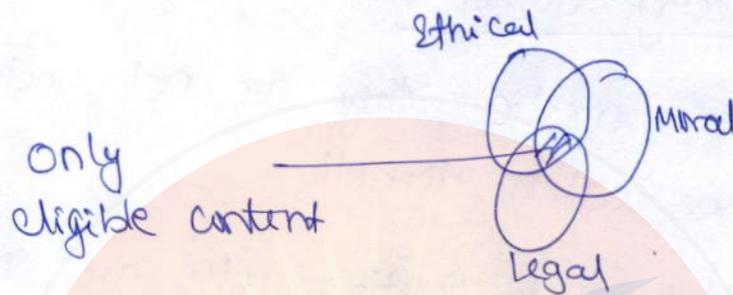
⇒ without any data or core backing they say anything

⑤ Underlying vested interest

⇒ often sponsored by some companies to spread agenda

(b) Role of public figures in responding to distorting influential content

① They should support only ethical, moral and legally approved content



② Take responsibility of self-censoring

③ They must not violate / misuse legal loopholes.

⇒ Building higher conscience to guide such situations

Eg: Ronaldo removed cola from table taking his conscience on sugary drinks

④ Promote only ~~the~~ allowed content

"Ethics is doing less than what law allows and more than what your conscience says within frame of duty"

- (1) Policy framework for responsible influence content without curbing intellectual freedom.
 - ⊕ Separate law on "Online influencers" focused on platform based content under IT act, 2005.
- (2) Rule of self-censorship at primary stage
- (3) Involving technology (AI) to remove obscene content
Eg: Facebook MOU with EU
- (4) Educating youth through school & social media
Political leaders must come forward in social media
Eg: PM's Pariksha pe charcha.
- (5) Rule to minors
Allow consent based material only with parental control.

eg: China banned mobiles upto 14 year

⑥ Increase small stakeholder awareness: Digital Saksharata Abhiyan

⑦ Constant monitoring & update of law

Any influences must balance between Right to freedom & crossing line of law by use of principles

Such as

- Kantian ethics
- Madhyam marg
- Teleological approach

Thus youth must be led by ethically, morally awakening content to use "demographic dividend" of India

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

(Don't write anything in this part)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

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)

"AI is new oil" in 21st Century. It can transform societies or destroy them within new time.

(a) ethical issues in case study

① Technological bias

- Towards tribals
- Vernacular language users

Increases tech. divide among users and excludes vulnerable people

② Environmental concern vs technology development

Sever carbon foot print of AI
threat to health

③ Companies economic vs Efficient, Ethical interest AI model

⇒ If not deployed. if harms Companies profit & legitimacy.

④ Larger interest of tech community

If deployed ^{sets} wrong precedence in tech community.

(b) Options available to Raghava

① Deploy the technology
and improve later on

Merits	Demerits
① Companies economic interest intact ② Quick deployment enhances government efficiency. ③ Internal friction in company stopped	① Ethical issue of bias ⇒ Discrimination against tribals (Art 15) violated ② Environmental issue ⇒ Poor health to all ③ Companies Credibility <u>lost</u>

② Pause deployment

Merit	Demerits.
① Upholds long term company credibility in long term ② Disaster prevented (wrong discrimination)	① Loss to company ② Government may take out contract ③ Environment issue remains

(3) Rahghavans option

He must stop (option 2) deploying technology and work on following

① Reducing environment pollution

① Install solar capacity

② Reduce power consumption by new training model

Eg: Deepseek in china model.

③ Use pollution controlling measures
→ Desulphurisation

② Train AI to be more precise

(a) may roll out pilot project

(b) collect more data on tribals & local language

(c) Use disaction & caution flags with HUMAN INTERVENTION

(Don't write anything in this part)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

③ Persuade investors to go for fully inclusive and efficient model

Platos Persuasion technique

Logos - longer term value

Pathos - Inclusive policy

Ethos - Morally right

④ Government must be consulted at all stages

Technology is used to enhance human capacity not to replace completely. Thus human touch must be added to AI to overcome any discrimination

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
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.

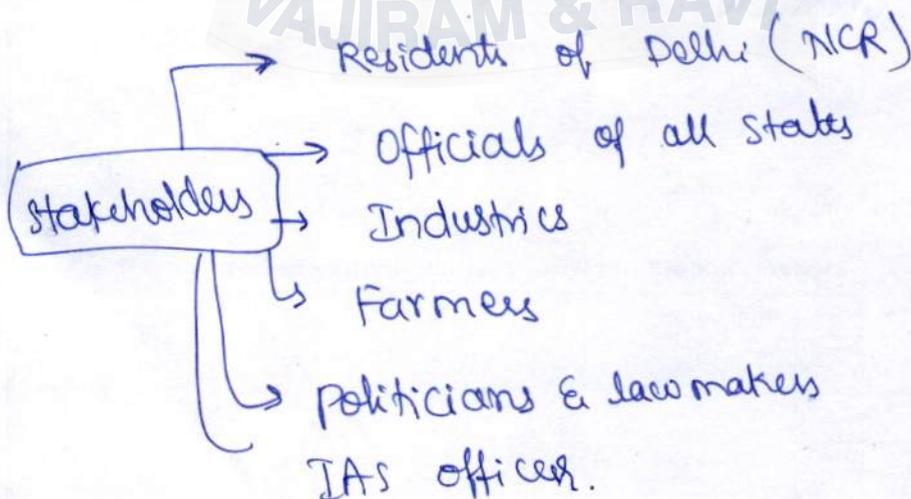
The officer proposes strict, time-bound restrictions, including suspending construction activities, limiting vehicular movement, and enforcing crop-residue burning bans. However, these measures attract strong opposition from various stakeholders. Farmers cite a lack of alternatives, real estate bodies 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.

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

(20 marks, 250 words)

Recently Supreme court in Ranjit Sinha case upheld that every citizen has "Right to pollution free environment" under Art 21 - Right to dignified life



(a) Options available to IAS officer to tackle the situation

① Go on with proposed plan to strict bans & time bound targets

Benefits	Challenges
① Health of vulnerable sections maintained	① <u>Loss of jobs</u> → Right to livelihood (UNHCR) loss
② shows dedication to fight pollution without any non-partisanship	② Threat to economy & investors mindset → As anti investment area
③ Long term benefit to NCR residents.	③ Farmers under stress Food stress in future
	④ Political opposition → Might affect officer position

② Suspend plans and allow parties to continue for investor summit

Benefits

challenges

① More Investment in upcoming summit

⊕ Health issues to everyone

⊕ No threat to economy as it is lifeline to many

⊕ Does not solve issue in the end

⊕ Political appeasement by agreeing to them

⊕ Reduces cities total image in global stand point.

short term gains ensured

⊕ Invisible economic loss
Pollution Reduces productivity as per NCMR

③ Chart out a balanced plan

- like
- Ban of non-essential services
 - Air purifiers towers
 - Happy seeds to farmers
 - Health warnings & holiday to schools
 - Constant data based policy

Merits → ① Accomodates all (Inclusive)

② Utilitarianism upheld (Most benefit to all)

demerits → Takes time
→ Hard to bring concerns

Core principles to guide decision making

- ① Human health as end in itself ;
A healthy person can do much contribution to economy & society
- Swami - Vivekananda
- ② Sarva janatu sukhibhava (Inclusivity)
Contemplating all stakeholders interests
& adopting encompassing measures
- ③ Non-partisanship
→ Not favouring any party in decision
- ④ Practicality to implement :
eg: Subsidized happy seeds instead of direct sale
- ⑤ Participatory approach
Involving resident welfare associations,
Other states, industrialists for
long term policies

(c) long term institutional reforms to balance environment & development

① Technological solution :

Airpurifier, gm crops & more efficient vehicles (e-vehicles) ; Bring startups for innovative ideas

② Comprehensive law : with punitive as well as promotive measures. Carbon tax

Eg: Punishing diesel vehicles with tax

③ Special liaison officers cadre : To make implementation efficient.

④ Data driven approach : Various data on sources, wind, weather
Use AI for analysis

⑤ Make it a Jan Andolan

We have 2.5 crore people in NCR, thus we can create 2.5 crore solutions if everyone comes by

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

Space for Rough Work



Space for Rough Work

