

GENERAL STUDIES

FULL LENGTH TEST

TEST - 8 (GS - 4)

Test Code - VR1054508

Evaluator Code:

Date of Assignment:

CQ:

NAME:

BASAVARAJ M PATIL

Time allowed: 180 Minutes

ADMIN. NO.:

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Email: |

MOBILE NO.:

Submission

Date:

9/08/2025

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 & RAVI 10:45

End Time - 1:45

Mode of Examination

Online Offline

Receiving date -

Dispatch date -

RECEIVED

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions

(Don't write anything in this part)

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③ Absence of morals in laws → Leads to unjustified laws

(Ex) Rowlatt Act of British Era

④ Absence of laws → Though people may follow values & morals. But

Subjective justification may contradict ethics

(Ex) Sati was considered moral, since it was widely accepted

overlapping of all

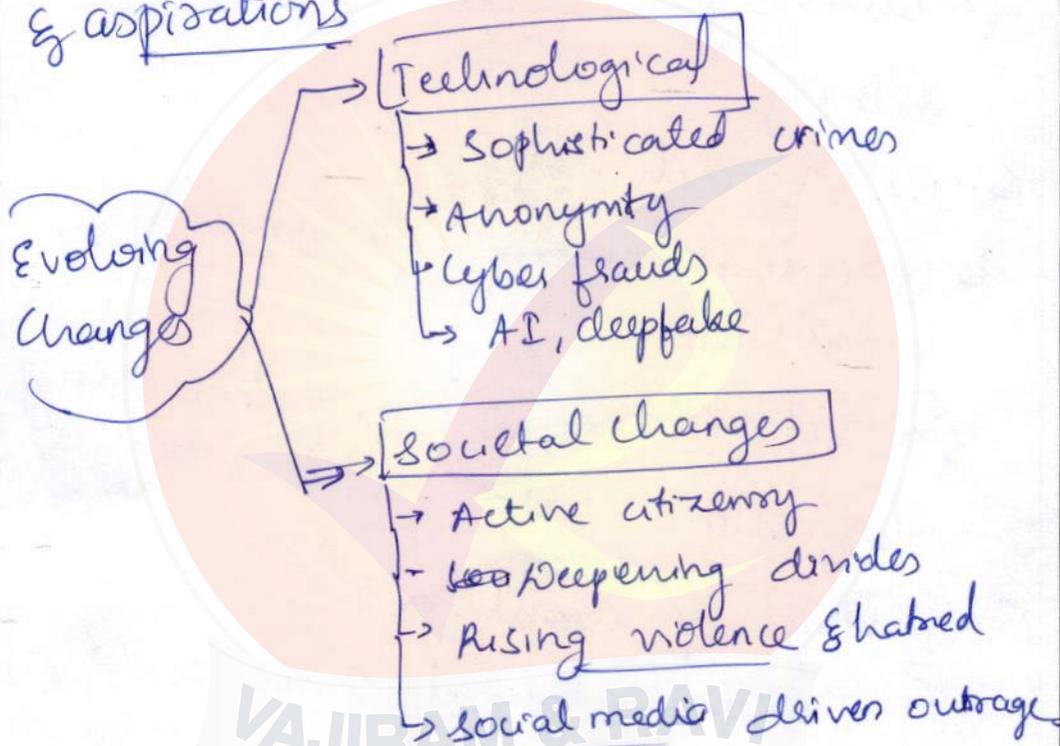
- Addresses the key issues of contemporary challenges
- (Ex) wars, cyber frauds
- In line with collective welfare
- maintains social contract

The socialization & education process must involve ~~the~~ all the aspects to ensure "ethical world".

Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

(b) "Moral principles are often challenged by evolving technological and societal changes. How should ethical decision-makers adapt to new realities while ensuring justice and integrity?" (10 marks, 150 words)

The ever evolving society often poses challenges to the decision makers due to complexity of demands & aspirations

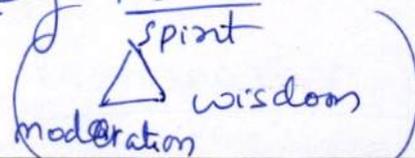


Ways to adapt to new realities

- 1) Effective use of Emotional intelligence
↳ Acts as tool to ensure the personality management

- ② Responsible use of Discretions
↳ Should not exploit the loopholes
- ③ Participatory approach
↳ Resonates with the ~~a~~ changing demand
- ④ online Lok adalats - for justice delivery
- ④ Use of Technology
↳ To ensure ~~new~~ transparency & accountability
- ⑤ Self disclosure of information through media. (U.Sagayam)
- ⑤ Curbing the social evils
⑥ Blockchain based Caste certificate in Maharashtra.

Though the external situation is changing, the decisions should be guided by Plato's ideas of Tripartite Soul.

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Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

2. (a) The family is often the first school of values, but it may also become a breeding ground for biases, stereotypes and hierarchical attitudes. Critically evaluate the dual role of family in value inculcation in a society. (10 marks, 150 words)

Family often acts as "Potter", who shapes the pottery. The children's are shaped & attitudes are moulded by the family members through socialisation.

Dual role of family

① Positive role

① socialization

↳ Inculcates values → makes child from Biological to cultural being

② Moulds the personality

(Ex) Punishment for stealing

③ Inculcates aspirations

(Ex) Thomas Alva Edison & more taught by mother

- ④ Intergenerational wisdom
Ex) Through Jataka & Panchatantra tales
- ⑤ Formative years becomes base for the future

② Negative role

① Dysfunction of family

↳ Teaches subversive attitude

② Binds with conformity glamour

Ex) Dowry demands by family

③ Perpetuates patriarchy

Ex) Father eating before mother.

↳ sign of authority

④ child rearing practices

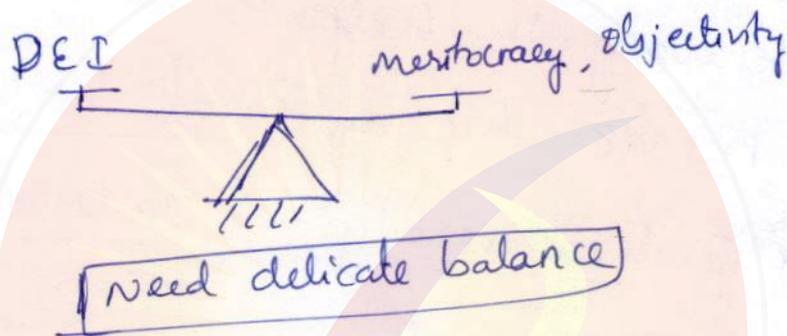
Ex) Preferential treatment for son over daughters.

The character of child depends on collective character of parents values

So, ethics should be the guide for socialisation

(b) Some argue that promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) may come at the cost of meritocracy and objectivity. How can public institutions balance these ethical considerations? (10 marks, 150 words)

As Rawls Difference principle upholds the differential treatment of underprivileged. However, it may sometimes impact the overall efficiency.



Ways to balance these ethical considerations

① Weber argues that, differential treatment hampers meritocracy which results in organisational inefficiency.

② Need to balance inclusivity & equity
↳ By ensuring "Affirmative actions"
(Ex) Reservation system.

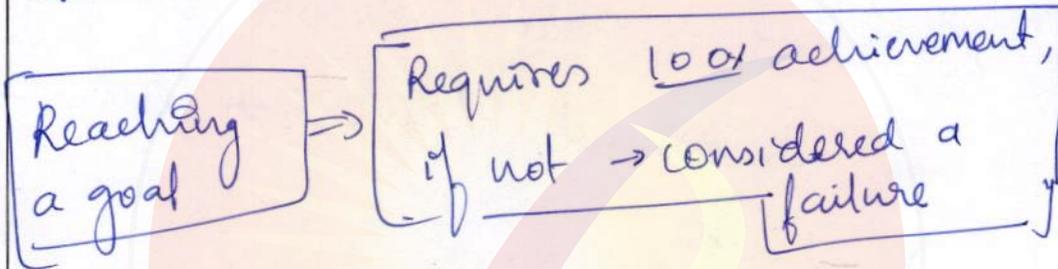
- ③ Adept management of Resources
Ex) division of critical & social sectors
to divide ~~the~~ between efficiency & inclusivity
- ④ SWOT Analysis
↳ knowing it helps to better prioritise the optimal choice
- Ex) gender diversity in Judiciary
- ⑤ long term goal
↳ These measures acts as equalizers
to ensure long term equality.
- Rational decisions should guide the affirmative actions as well as need for efficiency in public administration

3. What does the quote mean to you?

(a) "Glory lies in the attempt to reach one's goal and not in reaching it."-Gandhi.

(10 marks, 150 words)

The quote encapsulates the essence of "importance of efforts" in reaching goal, irrespective of success factor.



Importance of efforts ~~is~~

① Attempt to the goal ~~is~~ puts man at work

(Ex) Gandhi's attempt for Independence got succeeded in the end, ~~but~~ despite being ^{seen as} an illusion by many.

② Highlights means -> Attempt should

be driven by the purity of means
(Ex) Gandhi's strict adherence to the
Satyagrah & Ahimsa

③ Full effort is full victory
↳ leads to ultimate satisfaction.

④ Perpetuates the positive attitude

(Ex) Failure in Exam despite studying
hard → does not drive into suicidal
tendencies

⑤ Thoughts into Actions

↳ many even fail to do so.

(Ex) many saw the Birds fly, but wrong
brothers attempted to achieve
aspirations.

So, the true attempt ~~also~~
never ends in failure. either it gives
fruits or lessons.

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Marks:	

(b) "No man should tolerate injustice, whether it be against himself or against another." - Jyotiba Phule
(10 marks, 150 words)

"Injustice anywhere is threat to justice ^{every} ~~anywhere~~": so, tolerating injustice often burns the whole

"Societal tree"

Intolerance to injustice

① Justice is birth right

↳ No one has right to snatch rights of others

② Importance of not tolerating injustice on oneself

↳ Courage against oppression

↳ Prevents generational exploitation

(Ex) Caste system

↳ Enhances the societal & individual position

- ③ Injustice breeds the seeds of exploitation
- ④ Intolerance to injustice on others
↳ Driven by compassion & spirit of empathy.
- ⑤ Guided by the universal value of "human dignity"
- ⑥ Enforces "collective fight" against injustice & unity
- ⑦ Maintains "social fabric" intact
↳ ~~Ex~~ voice against - women inequality
often helps the men & women in whole.

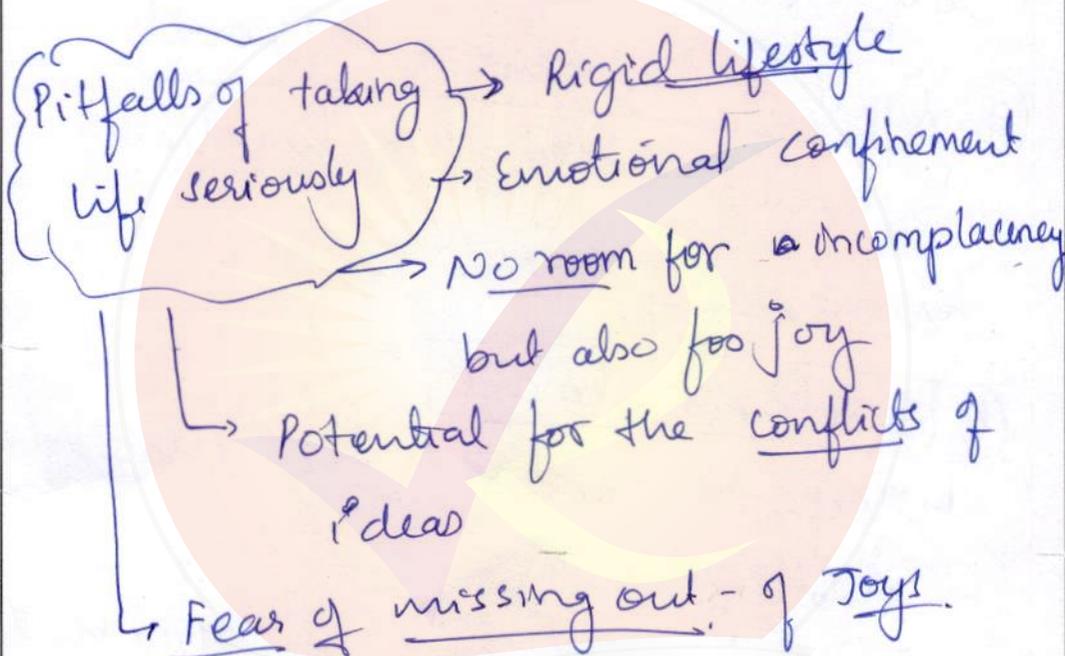
So, actions should be driven by the principle of "Intolerance to the injustice"

Introduction	
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Marks:	

(c) "Work is worship, but laughter is life. Anyone who takes life too seriously must prepare himself for a miserable existence. Anyone who greet[s] joys and sorrows with equal facility can really get the best of life." Sardar Patel.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Balance between the joys & sorrows are highlighted in the Buddha's Madhyam Marg.



Advantages of Balanced life

- ① Embraces the diversity of life
 - ② Courage to confront the challenges
- (Ex) Alva Edison → when Lab ~~was~~^{got} destroyed in fire, → didn't lose hope.

- ③ Enjoying - Every moment of life
↳ Breeds culture of "Happy living"
- ④ Inevitability of sorrows
↳ So, should not be ~~so~~ let down by the roadblocks
- ⑤ Light at the end of the Tunnel
↳ Should guide the hopeful adventures of lives.
- ⑥ Emotional balance
↳ Helps to confront the challenging situations.
- ⑦ Not gets carried away by the hardships
- ⑧ Rising incidences of suicides (NCRB)
Balance of sorrow & joy, not only ensures happy life but also it is also contagious. i.e helps the family & society as whole.

Introduction	
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Marks:	

4. (a) How does the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 seek to restore the ethical and holistic purpose of education beyond mere employability? Reflect on the ethical significance of this shift. (10 marks, 150 words)

NEP 2020 aims to ~~real~~ revolutionise the educational environment with flexible approach, a departure from earlier rigid environment

NEP 2020

- ① Focus on "emotional element" in education
 - ↳ Teacher training → To ensure "felt need approach"
- ② "Ethical framework" in curriculum
 - ↳ Inclusion of community services, Compassion etc.
- ③ Education beyond classroom
 - ↳ Courses on Yoga, meditation

④ Flexibility

↳ ease of Entry & Exit → Helps to ensure "need based education"

⑤ Departure from "Rote Learning" to Activity based learning

⑥ Nali-Kali scheme of Karnataka

⑦ Multi-staged examinations

↳ Reduces pressure on the ~~person~~ individual, to score / pass

⑧ It helps in emotional balance of students.

⑨ Prevents suicides.

NEP 2020 - holds lot of potential to bring in reformative education.

It should be backed by institutional reforms.

Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

(b) Punitive vigilance deters corruption, preventive vigilance reduces opportunities for corruption while participative vigilance fosters a culture of transparency and accountability, eliminating the root cause of corruption. Critically examine this statement with relevant examples (10 marks, 150 words)

Hobbes's "Fear theory" states that, it is the fear of law & punishment, that individuals act lawfully.

However, loopholes in laws & have necessitated the need of preventive & participative approach.

Punitive vigilance

① Acts as deterrence for corruption

② Prevention of Corruption Act → 7 years of jail

② Fear of "social shame"

↳ So, deters the attempts for corruption

Preventive vigilance

① Acts as corrective measure of corruptions.

② Reduces opportunity through

RTE & Transparency, Social Audit etc

③ Regular visits / surprise visits
↳ Fears of ~~depen~~ disciplinary action

④ vigilance

↳ CCTV camera → conscious about being watched

Participative vigilance

① "Culture of Transparency" & active citizenry

↳ Social audit

② Cuts the supply

↳ without bribe gives, bribe taker cannot flourish

↳ whistleblowing in office

③ Acts as check on corruption.

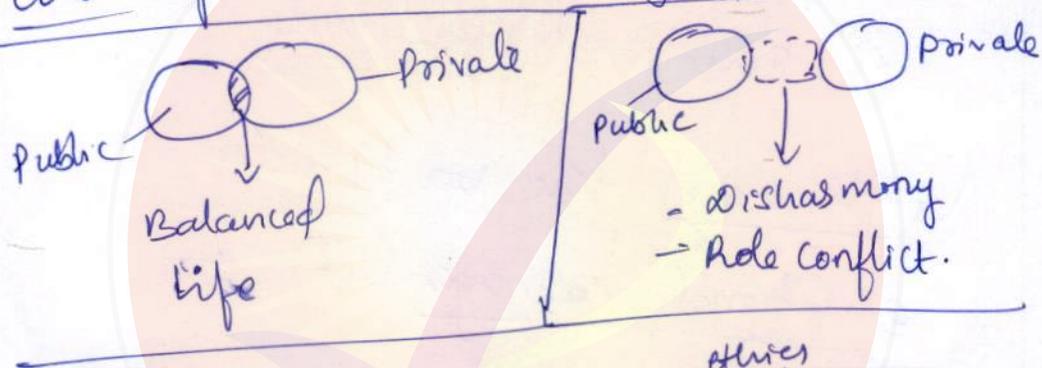
The three of vigilances must combine to uproot the evil of corruption, in order to become

"Viksit Bharat by 2047"

Introduction	
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Marks:	

5. (a) "The separation of private and public ethics is not only difficult but may also be counterproductive." Do you agree with this view? Justify your stance with logical arguments and examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

The goal of effective and balanced life is to ensure balance between public & private ^{ethics} life. ~~Compromise of~~ ^{or} mutual exclusion of one another ends up in disharmony.



separation of public & private ^{ethics} life is counterproductive because

① difficult to ensure dichotomy
↳ neither serves the purpose of ~~life~~ public nor private life

② Practice of paternity → difficult to ensure gender equality at workspace

② Disharmony of values

↳ Does not serve the purpose of ethics

③ Counterproductive, because

↳ Overlap of values

⊕ Emotional intelligence

↳ Absence of the ~~sa~~ greater emotional management

④ Balancing of both leads as "Role model"

⊕ D K Kasve

Thus, emotional engagement & Ethical balance of each with each stakeholders ensure perfect balance.

Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

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- (b) Ethical competence is as essential as technical competence in public service.
Examine the statement with suitable examples. **(10 marks, 150 words)**



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VAJIRAM & RAVI

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VAJIRAM & RAVI

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6. (a) A well-developed conscience is the foundation of ethical governance." Discuss with suitable examples. (10 marks, 150 words)



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VAJIRAM & RAVI

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Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

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VAJIRAM & RAVI

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(b) Is it ethically defensible to pursue global prestige through space missions while everyday injustices like hunger or women's safety remain unresolved? Discuss the role of ethical governance in managing such trade-offs.

(10 marks, 150 words)



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VAJIRAM & RAVI

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Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
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Marks:	

Section B

7. Priya, an assistant accounts manager at a city-based private educational trust that runs several low-fee schools for underprivileged children, has always been known for her integrity and diligence. One day, she learns that her close colleague and friend, Arjun, a sincere employee and a widower struggling to raise his two young daughters alone, has been facing a harrowing situation. Arjun's younger child was diagnosed with a severe brain condition requiring urgent surgery costing nearly Rs. 70 lakh. With no health insurance, little savings, and no family support to fall back on, Arjun was on the verge of losing hope. Priya wanted to help, but her own financial situation, with elderly dependent parents and modest savings, left her helpless and burdened with guilt for not being able to stand by her friend in his time of dire need.

A few weeks later, when Priya visits Arjun to check on his situation, she is relieved to see his child recovering well. In a quiet conversation, Arjun reveals that their senior administrator, Mr. Kulkarni, known for his kind but discreet ways, had quietly arranged Rs. 70 lakh from an old scholarship fund that had been lying unused for years. He did so on the condition that Arjun would repay the sum slowly through deductions from his salary, without anyone else finding out. Grateful but uneasy, Arjun confides that Mr. Kulkarni has helped other staff members in similar personal emergencies in the past, using small dormant funds without formal approvals, to prevent suffering and distress among the staff who often have no safety net.

A few days later, while finalizing quarterly accounts, Priya overhears a conversation in the accounts office that an external audit of all scholarship and welfare funds is scheduled for next month. She realizes that this means the unauthorized diversions might come to light. Priya deeply sympathizes with Arjun's situation and admires Mr. Kulkarni's humane intentions, but she also knows that misusing designated funds, however noble the cause, violates trust, policy, and legal norms. If discovered, it could lead to severe consequences for Mr. Kulkarni, jeopardize the trust's reputation, and even risk the schools' funding.

- (a) Identify the key ethical dilemmas faced by Priya in this situation.
(b) Discuss the ethical dimensions of Mr. Kulkarni's actions. Do you think his conduct can be justified? Give reasons for your answer.
(b) What are the options available to Priya at this point? Analyze the merits and demerits of each option. **(20 marks, 250 words)**

"Falsehood takes the place of common good, if it results in unblemished common good"
- Thiruvalluvar

The given case study too highlights the ethical dilemma of Means (V/S) ends, in which the senior administrator's actions need to be evaluated

① Ethical dilemmas faced by Priya

① Means (V/S) Ends

↳ The action of giving money meant for scholarship may justify the end, but not means

② deontology of Kant (V/S) Teleology of J.S. Mill

↳ According to Kant's duty ethics, our actions defines the ethicality

③ Rule of Law VS Compassion
↳ while the actions of Mr. Kulkarni are against law, but it is on compassionate ground

④ Child's life VS Justified use of funds
↳ Though the action saved life, obtaining the funds may not be justified

⑥ Ethical Dimensions

① Deontological Ethics

↳ Kant's approach → The action is not justified, since it takes path of misuse

Unauthorised use of money

② Consequential Ethics - Jeremy Bentham

↳ Though the means is not fully ethical, the consequence of saving child's

Life justified the action

③ Compassionate approach

↳ Mr. Kulkarni's actions upholds the compassion

④ Humanitarian

↳ The life of Child "becomes utmost important

Can it be justified?

Though the action of misappropriation of funds is not justified, if the child's life is at danger, utilizing funds can serve the purpose

However care should be taken to prevent such incidents.

Providing alternate methods such as crowd funding, loans etc can help in such cases

Options available

I To flag the incident

merit	Demerit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Her position is intact→ Transparency & integrity of profession	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Punishment for <u>Kulkarni</u> - <u>ni</u> for <u>compassion</u>→ Jeopardises personal relations

II To hide the incident by manipulating records

Merits	Demerits
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Safety from any actions→ <u>Compassion</u> gets rewarded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Sets bad precedent→ Lack of professional integrity

III To inform to higher authority & explain them the gravity of situation to make them understand the compassionate actions of Kulkarni

Compassion should guide the way in order to ensure "no one gets punished for showing compassion".

Introduction

Body

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Presentation

Marks:

8. Rajesh is a dedicated and upright IAS officer who has recently been posted as the Commissioner of a major city's Municipal Corporation after serving diligently in various assignments for over a decade. This is his fifth transfer in four years, mostly due to his refusal to bend rules for influential people. His colleagues admire his integrity, discipline, and commitment to public service.

The mayor of the city, a senior leader of the ruling party, holds significant power over the corporation's functioning. Rajesh soon learns about several dubious tenders and large-scale irregularities in awarding contracts for the city's solid waste management project. He notices that payments have been hastily cleared to companies with questionable credentials, despite glaring deficiencies in their work.

One day, a senior councillor belonging to a rival political party approaches Rajesh and shares a set of audio recordings and internal emails that purportedly show the mayor asking for kickbacks from contractors in exchange for lucrative garbage collection contracts. Rajesh also recalls the same contractors' payments being pushed through under the mayor's orders, bypassing due process.

When Rajesh asks the Councillor why he doesn't bring this evidence to the media or the anti-corruption bureau himself, the Councillor shrugs it off, hinting that his hands are tied politically but Rajesh can "earn a hero's image" by blowing the whistle. He subtly promises that if his party comes to power in the upcoming municipal elections, Rajesh's loyalty will be rewarded with an important posting and career security.

Meanwhile, local media has started sniffing around the irregularities, and Rajesh's silence could make him appear complicit. His own staff is divided; some urge him to maintain the status quo for personal safety, while a few junior officers privately want him to act boldly and clean up the system. Adding to his dilemma, Rajesh's elderly parents are dependent on him, and another sudden transfer could make their care difficult.

- (a) Identify the key ethical dilemmas faced by Rajesh in this situation.
 - (b) What are the options available to Rajesh to deal with the situation? Evaluate each option with its merits and demerits.
 - (c) In the context of this case, discuss the ethical challenges of whistleblowing for public servants in India.
 - (d) What institutional reforms can strengthen ethical conduct and protect honest officers?
- (20 marks, 250 words)**

working for future careers as promised by the Councilor

⑥ Remaining silent (vs) working towards public welfare

⑤ Options available

① To blow whistle

merit	demerit
① Upholding professionalism	① Retribution from politician
② Wrongdoers gets punished	② Punishment transfer

② To stay silent

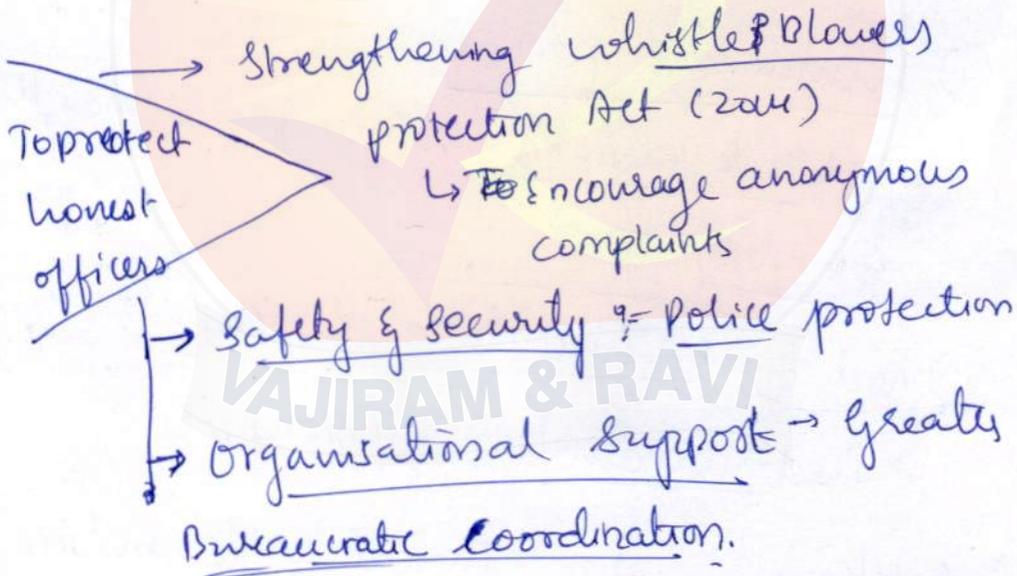
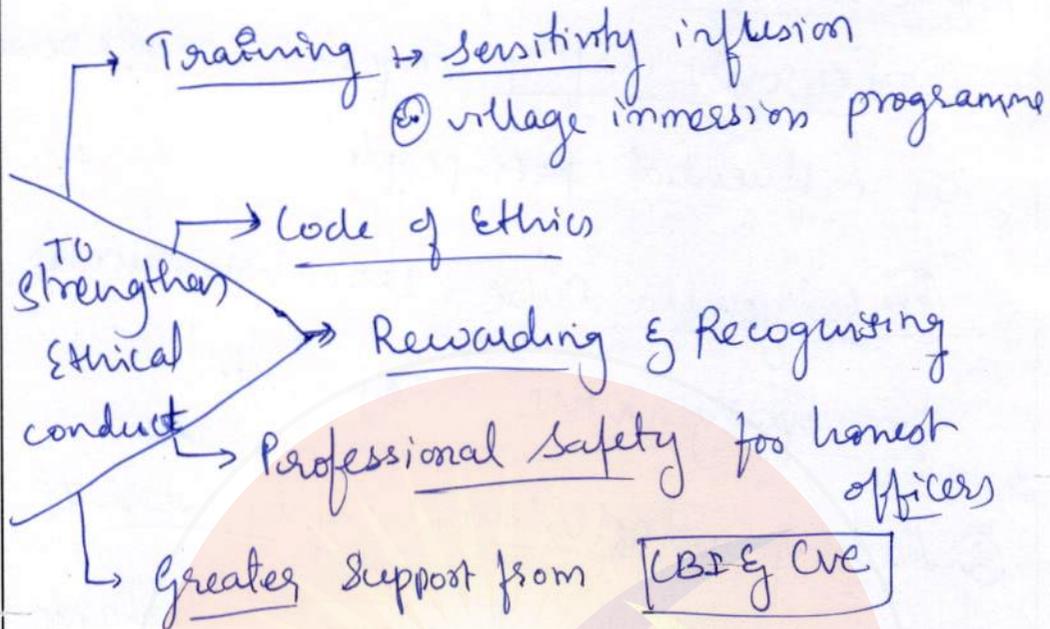
merit	Demerit
→ Personal safety	→ Compromises integrity
→ <u>No risk</u>	→ Absence of probity
	→ unethical

③ To inform higher authority & investigate matter

merit	Demerit
→ <u>Justice</u> is served	→ Difficult to achieve <u>consensus</u>
→ sets future incidents	

- ① Ethical challenges for whistleblowing for public servants :-
- ① Personal safety against muscle power of influential ~~person~~ people
 - ② Ex Satyendra Dube (IES) - was murdered for exposing NHAI irregularities
 - ③ Lack of whistleblower safety measures
 - ④ No provision for Anonymous complaints
 - ⑤ Punishment postings
Ex Ashok Khemka → Transferred more than 50 times
 - ⑥ Lack of Organisational support
↳ Institutionalisation of corruption
 - ⑦ Safety of family → Threat of Retribution for people.

④ Institutional Reforms



Honesty & probity are eyes & ears
of the public administration. sense of security helps to cultivate the probity.

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Marks:	

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9. Neha, an IAS officer, is serving as the District Magistrate (DM) of a bustling metropolitan district. Among her wide-ranging responsibilities, she also oversees the functioning of the Municipal Sanitation Department, which employs hundreds of sanitation workers, drivers, and daily wage laborers responsible for keeping the city clean and waste-free.

One morning, a disturbing case landed on Neha's desk. Rajiv, a municipal garbage truck driver, died following a violent street altercation while on duty. On that day, Rajiv was driving his garbage collection truck through a crowded market street. He got into a heated argument with a street vendor who had encroached upon the road, obstructing the truck's passage. Eyewitness reports and CCTV footage revealed that Rajiv, known for his short temper, started the verbal abuse, which escalated into a physical fight. Despite bystanders trying to intervene, the scuffle turned bloody. Both Rajiv and the vendor were hospitalized with serious injuries. Rajiv succumbed to a head injury later that night, while the vendor survived.

A police investigation and the Municipal Sanitation Department's inquiry confirmed that Rajiv's death resulted from his own misconduct and violent behavior while on duty. A post-mortem report further revealed that Rajiv had consumed alcohol while on duty and was under the influence at the time of the altercation, which is a clear violation of service rules that strictly prohibit drinking during work hours, especially for drivers operating municipal vehicles.

According to the department's standing rules, extra ex-gratia compensation and family employment are given only in cases of death caused by workplace accidents or occupational hazards, not deaths resulting from personal fights, gross misconduct, or negligence such as working under the influence of alcohol.

However, Rajiv's death left behind a dependent family: his elderly parents, his wife, and two children, one in college, the other in high school. His wife and children, shattered by his sudden death, argue that Rajiv died during duty hours and the family must not be punished for his mistake. The Sanitation Workers' Union has taken up the issue aggressively, demanding the same full ex-gratia compensation that is given to other drivers who die on duty, plus a permanent government job for Rajiv's elder son.

When the department refused, citing the clear rule violation, the union declared an indefinite strike, bringing garbage collection to a standstill. The strike has now entered its tenth day, and the city's streets are overflowing with waste, creating serious health and public order concerns. Neha is under pressure to resolve the crisis while balancing legal norms, humanitarian concerns, and public interest.

- (a) Evaluate each option with its merits and demerits available to Neha.
- (b) If you were in Neha's position, what decision would you take? Justify your decision with appropriate ethical reasoning and principles.
- (c) What steps can Neha take to prevent similar incidents and ethical conflicts in the future in the Municipal Sanitation Department?

(20 marks, 250 words)

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"You will not be punished ~~by~~^{for} your anger, but punished by your anger."

Lack of anger management often ends up in costing the possessor of anger.

The given case study too highlights issue, of where death of Rajiv has caused administrative huddle as well deep trouble for his family.

(a) options

① To not provide compensation

<u>Merit</u>	<u>Demerit</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ upholds rule of law→ sets good precedence for future such incidents	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ is Continued strike causes garbage issue→ Administrative deadlock

⑤ To Agree to demands & provide compensation

merit	Demerit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Justice to the family→ <u>Protesters</u> withdraw <u>strikes</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Sets bad precedent→ Against <u>the</u> rule of Law

⑥ To find amicable solution with Union & higher authority

merit	Demerit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ win win situation→ Helps to resolve the matter with <u>consensus</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Difficult to arrive at <u>consensus</u>

⑦ If I were in Nehru's position -

① Priority is to resolve the deadlock
↳ i.e. to request unions to withdraw protest

② ~~Amma~~ conducting a common meeting with all stakeholders

- ③ Requesting workers to continue work
- ④ forming a departmental committee
- ⑤ Considering the gravity of situation,
identifying various alternatives
↳ Relieving partial amount, so that family can sustain
- ⑥ Exploring other alternatives for children & wife under various government schemes
↳ Scholarship schemes
↳ Health insurance, skilling under Kaushal vikas yojana

Long Term

① Framing clear Code of Conduct & code of Ethics

Others

- ② Proper Training for → Professional competency & personal emotion management
- ③ Framing clear set of Guidelines to ensure such incidents do not arise in future

① Steps

- ① Clear designation of roles & responsibilities
- ② Safety checks → strict verification of Alcoholism, vehicle conditions etc
- ③ Strict punitive measures
↳ Acts as deterrent mechanisms in case of Alcoholism. (Hobbe's Fear theory)

The actions must be guided by the rationality of professional management as well as responsibility of worker's welfare.

Introduction	
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Marks:	

10. Aarav was a young man in his early twenties, working as a promising IAS officer recently posted in a prominent district. His family, well-respected and influential in their community, arranged his marriage to Priya, a bright and educated young woman from a nearby town. The marriage was celebrated lavishly, with local leaders, senior bureaucrats, and influential people attending the grand ceremony. To the outside world, Aarav and Priya seemed like an ideal couple.

However, behind closed doors, Aarav's parents soon began demanding additional dowry shortly after the wedding. Despite their respectable social standing and Aarav's prestigious position in government service, they were never satisfied with what Priya's family had given at the time of marriage. They repeatedly reminded Priya of the 'promised gifts' that they claimed were incomplete: a new car, more gold jewelry, and financial help to buy an upscale apartment in the city.

Aarav, caught between his duty as a husband and his deep-seated conditioning to obey and please his parents, often tried to mediate but rarely stood up firmly for Priya. He rationalized that as an officer entrusted with maintaining law and order in society, he should avoid any scandal that could tarnish his family's reputation and his own career prospects. He was raised to believe that family honor and parental wishes were paramount.

Meanwhile, Priya bore the brunt of daily taunts, subtle threats, and constant emotional harassment. Her mother-in-law would belittle her for "bringing shame" to their family by not fulfilling her family's so-called promises. Whenever Priya's parents visited, they were met with humiliation and veiled threats about sending Priya back if they did not arrange more money.

Fearing for their daughter's marriage and social standing, Priya's father sold part of his ancestral land to provide additional cash and jewelry. But the demands never stopped. Aarav, though fully aware of the injustice and the fact that dowry harassment was illegal under Indian law chose silence over confrontation, convincing himself that confronting his parents would shatter family harmony and invite public shame.

As the pressure mounted, Priya's mental health deteriorated. She grew withdrawn and anxious, confiding in her parents about the relentless harassment but begging them not to take any legal action. She feared social stigma, public scandal, and the impact it might have on Aarav's reputation and career. Aarav, meanwhile, continued to live with the moral conflict between his role as an upholder of the law and his inability to protect his own wife from a crime happening within his own household.

- (a) Discuss the ethical dilemmas faced by Aarav in this scenario.
- (b) Suggest institutional and social mechanisms that can prevent dowry harassment cases like this and support victims who fear social stigma if they take legal action.
- (c) Examine how social conditioning and family honor often influence ethical decision-making in Indian families.

(20 marks, 250 words)

"Men act ill, not because of strong desire, but because of weak conscience" - J.S. Mill

The given case highlights the "multilayered feature of conscience" at many levels. "Dowry" is neither legal ~~nor~~ ethical, despite this many incidents of dowry are registered, which signifies ~~no~~ erosion of morals.

① Ethical dilemma

① Conscience vs Family honour

↳ Despite knowing illegality of dowry,

he ~~can't~~ does not oppose it

② Responsibility as husband vs

Responsibility as son

③ Pritya → whether to stand against oppression • vs to fear the social stigma

④ Gender (vs) Rule of Law
↓ ↓
more dowry Against the law

⑤ Institutional mechanism

① Strengthening of Law
↳ Dowry Prohibition of Act → provision for victim protection.

② Police reforms
↳ Zero FIRs, Suo-motu investigations etc

③ Mental Health support & counselling
↳ in public / private hospitals → helps victims to stand against oppression.

④ National Women's Commission → TO

- synergise with Community Policing
- Ex) Chuppitod Campaigns.

Social mechanisms

- ① Awareness about illegality of the Dowry
- ② social media campaigning → To encourage women's against oppression
- ③ victim support centres
Ex) Swades Grels.
- ④ Persuasion
Ex) Projects/ initiatives on the line of "Beti Bachao - Beti padho"
- ⑤ Highlighting - "Punitive measures"
↳ Hobbes - "Fear motivation principle":
i.e. people follow rule of law due to fear of punishment.

① Influence of social conditioning & family honour in decision-making:

① Fear of ostracization → leads to illegal conformity with social ills

② Deep rooted patriarchy → in society often leaches down to families

③ Family honour seen as "~~the~~ ultimate End"

↳ (Ex) Honour killings

④ Stratified society → need ~~of~~ maintaining the social / clan distance

(Ex) opposition to intercaste marriage

Thus, the change should begin from the home itself,
As envisioned by APJ Abdul Kalam's
quote of "change through family,
mother & father."

Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part)

11. After an unexpected breach in a major dam upstream, the district of Neelgram has been hit by sudden flooding, which not only damaged standing crops but also contaminated most local water sources with silt and debris. Ananya, a young Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) recently transferred to Neelgram, has ordered emergency measures to ration and purify the remaining potable water and clamp down on illegal extraction of groundwater to ensure enough safe water for drinking and health camps. However, when her enforcement teams start sealing unauthorized borewells on farmland to prevent further depletion, a large group of distressed farmers storms her office, accusing her of double standards for ignoring the big bottled water companies and luxury housing societies on the town's outskirts that continue tapping deep aquifers around the clock under old permits allegedly renewed through bribes. The farmers claim they are being pushed to ruin just to keep swimming pools full and bottled water businesses profitable. Meanwhile, local hotels warn that shutting their supply will lead to layoffs of hundreds of daily-wage workers already reeling from the flood damage. Political leaders privately pressurize Ananya to avoid any action that might anger influential industrialists and real estate developers. To complicate matters further, she discovers some lower-rung officials have been pocketing hush money to overlook illegal borewells. With rural families queuing up for clean water tankers and local schools forced to close due to unsafe drinking water, Ananya must now grapple with the ethical dilemma of conserving critical water reserves, enforcing rules impartially, protecting poor farmers' livelihoods, resisting powerful vested interests, ensuring continued employment for daily-wage workers, and upholding public trust in the administration during a fragile recovery phase.
- (a) Identify and discuss the major ethical dilemmas faced by Ananya.
(b) Briefly describe major laws or policies enacted by the Government of India to ensure sustainable water management.
(c) Suggest a balanced course of action that Ananya can adopt to ensure equitable water distribution, prevent misuse of groundwater, protect vulnerable livelihoods, and restore public trust. (29 marks, 250 words)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

The case of dam breaching due to erratic monsoon & ageing dams has been cause of concern. Such situations must be dealt with proper balancing of immediate needs and longterm safeguards.

(a) Ethical dilemmas

- ① Interest of farmers (vs) Interest of victims
↳ Allowing farmers to use water would deplete natural resource
- ② Demand of farmers (vs) daily wage labourers
- ③ Impartiality (vs) differential treatment
↳ Need to act based on merit
- ④ Public trust (vs) Political pressure
↳ when acting against real estate & industry.

⑤ ~~Save~~ conservation of critical resource ^(VCS)
present farmer's needs.

⑥ Laws / policies for water management

① Atal Bhujal Yojana → To enhance ground water recharge

② Water Act 1971

↳ governs the protection of water bodies

③ Environment protection Act 1986

④ waste management rules

↳ Encourage "Zero liquid discharge"

Eg. water treatment plants

⑤ Integrated watershed management
↳ promotes community based water management

⑥ Missin Life → focus on resource conservation

① Balanced course of Action

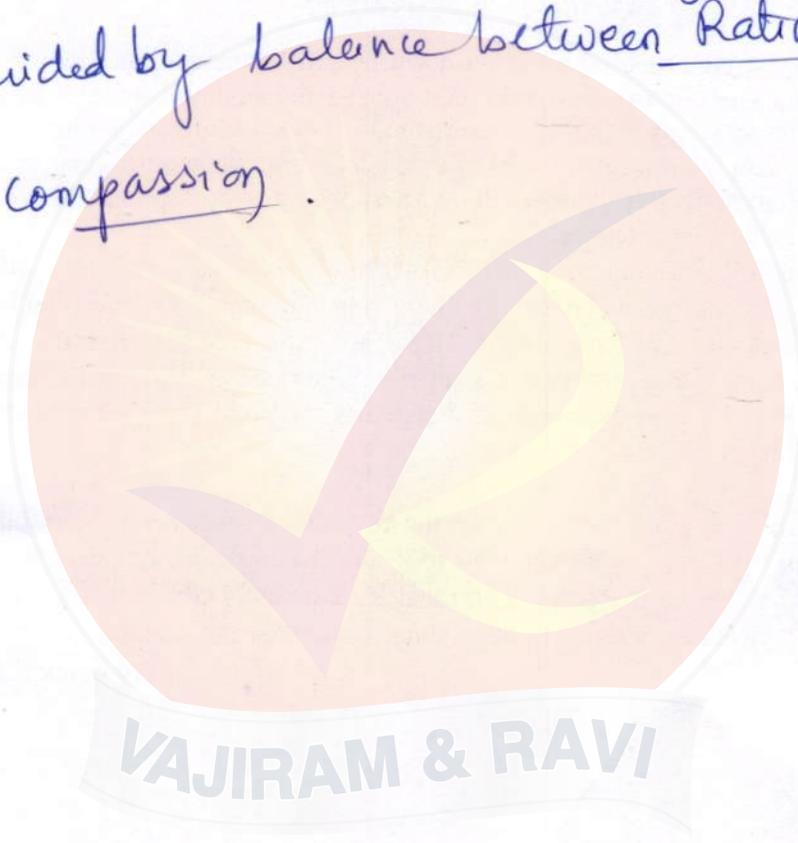
- ① Immediate survey of Available resource & damaged resources
- ② Taking community led meeting to ensure public trust
- ③ Enforcing "use limit" on apartments & industry
- ④ Directing the "Bottled water" to the victims
↳ Through CSR if applicable
- ⑤ Crop survey → To ensure farmers are not at the loss
- ⑥ Water kiosks
↳ To help supply potable water
- ⑦ Parallely → cleaning up the polluted water bodies
- ⑧ Strict action on - corrupt officials &

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part)

monitoring the rules implementation
such situations not only require
-s adept management of crisis but also
also the "emotional intelligence"
guided by balance between Rationality
& compassion.



Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part)

12. Ritika Verma, the director of a reputed heritage conservation NGO that has spent over a decade protecting ancient monuments and ecologically sensitive cultural landscapes in the semi-arid region of Rajasthan.

Recently, the state government has unveiled a major Solar Energy Park Project spanning nearly 5,000 hectares of largely barren but historically significant desert land dotted with ancient stepwells (Baolis), medieval Caravanserai ruins, and sacred groves that are home to several endangered desert flora and fauna.

The project is expected to make the state a leader in renewable energy, reduce carbon emissions significantly, and provide green electricity to millions, aligning with India's national renewable energy goals and global climate commitments. It will also create thousands of direct and indirect jobs for local villagers, many of whom struggle with seasonal migration and poverty.

However, the proposed solar farm will require flattening sand dunes, restricting grazing land for pastoral communities, and potentially disturbing fragile micro-habitats that support unique desert biodiversity. Local communities are divided, some want the project for jobs and development, while others fear it will disrupt their traditional livelihoods, cultural heritage sites, and spiritual groves that hold deep cultural significance.

Adding to Ritika's dilemma, her NGO recently received significant donations from an international renewable energy foundation, the same foundation that has invested heavily in the Solar Park project. Her board expects her to balance environmental stewardship with a progressive stance on green energy. Meanwhile, local activists accuse the NGO of hypocrisy if it supports the project and betrayal if it opposes clean energy goals.

- (a) Identify and briefly discuss the key ethical issues involved in this case.
- (b) What options are available to Ritika? Critically analyze each option.
- (c) Suggest a course of action that Ritika should take in this situation. Justify your answer with suitable ethical principles and values.

(20 marks, 250 words)

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The dilemma of environmental Stewardship vis focusing on Renewable energy resonates with the perennial conflict of ~~envs~~ Economy vs Ecology, which ~~for~~ poses the conflicting challenges.

(a) Key ethical issues

(1) Eco-centrism

↳ Setting of solar park could potentially harm local biodiversity.

(2) Dilemma of Renewable energy

↳ though solar helps in long term, it leads to destroying of resources

(3) Rights of Locals → Generational Community rights are compromised

(4) Unemployment ⇒ solar park would employ thousands of locals.

⑤ Neutrality of action

↳ Action should not be guided by the pressure of receiving funds.

⑥ Options available

① To oppose the solar park

merit	Demerit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Environmental conservation → Professional integrity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Opposing without assessment would lead to "Blind opposition"

② To stay silent over project as directed by Board members

Demerit	Demerit
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Crisis of <u>conscience</u> → Against professional <u>ethics</u> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Professional safety → Encouragement of Renewable energy → Employment

③ To rise the issue & demanding Environment Impact Assessment (EIA)

Merit	Demerit
<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Clear merit of case can be <u>known</u>→ Democratic approach since it involves the <u>stakeholders</u>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">→ may stall the project→ opposition from Board members

① Course of Action

- ① Reaching out to the villagers to record genuine grievances.
- ② Approaching leaders of villages to ensure justice (participatory approach)
- ③ Not being influenced by Fund^{ing} from company → upholds Professionalism
- ④ Pressurizing the resolution through EIA. (Deontology of Kant)
- ⑤ Trusteeship doctrine
 - ↳ Requesting Company to consider Environmental & local concerns

⑥ Publishing independent studies with
Courage & impartiality
↳ uphold's Plato's cardinal virtue of
Courage.

Any actions should be to
guided by the ethical responsibility,
longterm benefits & with addressing
issues of local population, which
serves the ultimate justice.

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Introduction	
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Space for Rough Work



Space for Rough Work

