

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

Evaluator Code:
Date of Assignment:
CQ:

NAME: HIMANSHU JAIN

Time allowed: 180 Minutes

ADMIN. NO.: 2 3 7 0 0 0 1 4

Email:

MOBILE NO.:

Submission Date:

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 - 9:30

End Time - 12:40

Mode of Examination

Online

Offline

Receiving date -

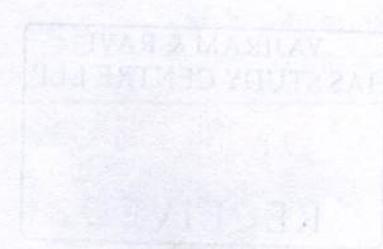
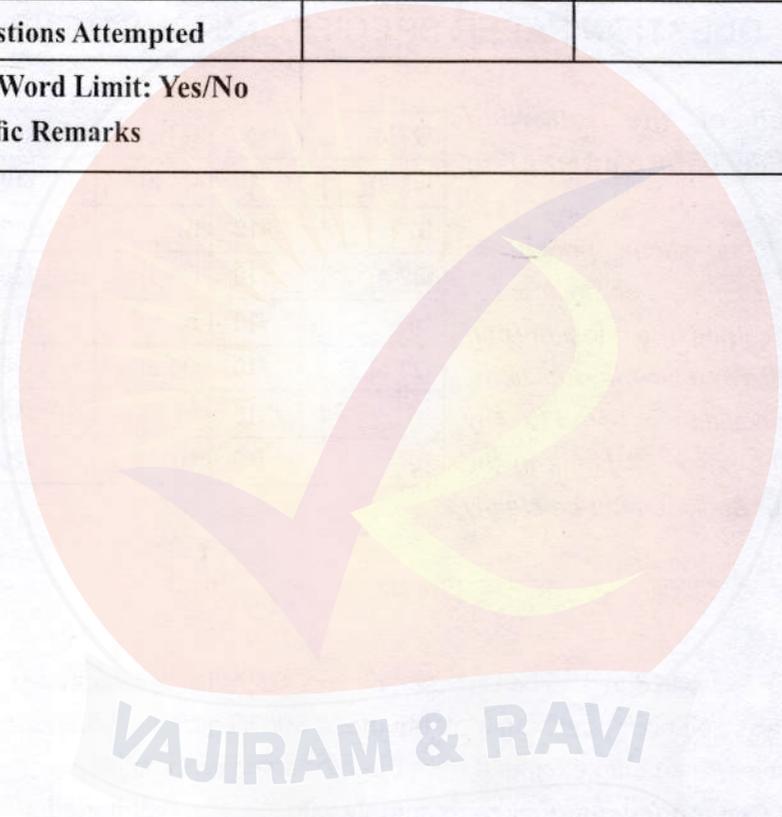
Dispatch date -

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IAS STUDY CENTRE LLP

28 JUL 2025

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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)

Integrity refers to the wholesomeness of the character, meaning consistent applying of virtuous character even when no one is watching.

eg) → Ashok Khemka's Integrity

Integrity in Isolation →

- ① Promoting ethical utilisation of the resources

eg) → utilising funds for the said purposes

- ② Check the corruption in the administration

- ③ Promote consistency in the administration

eg) → Rule based decision making

Integrity without impartiality & non-partisanship

① led to serving vested interest

↳ eg) → tender allocation

② Inaction in the critical time

↳ eg) → Inaction during ethical dilemma

③ loss of value neutrality

↳ eg) → giving undue favor to the one stakeholder over other.

④ Against the 'veil of ignorance' of the John Locke

↳ eg) → partial decision making

"Impartiality and non-partisanship are jewels to the civil services"

- Resident Dr. Upadi Murmu

thus, they must be protected along with the Integrity itself.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

Suggestions:

(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 refers to the pre-disposition towards rightness or wrongness of the action at societal level.

Ethical framework helps in clearing the clutter and brings balance between individual autonomy and societal need.

S.No.	Ethical Frameworks	balance b/w Individual autonomy & societal need
①	<u>Utilitarian Framework</u>	Common <u>societal goal</u> over <u>Individual</u> and <u>freedom</u> eg] → <u>AFSPA</u> implemented for <u>Internal security</u>
②	<u>Common good</u>	Promoting <u>Common good</u> rather than <u>Individual interest</u> eg] → <u>free subsidy</u> to farmer

Ethical Framework

balance

③ Deontological

action / means over the end goals

eg) → Democratic means
Justice

④ Justice approach

fairness in the action, equity promoter

⑤ Rights approach

eg) → reservation policy of the government for overall societal benefit
to preserve the overall rights of the society

"Ethics is knowing the difference between what is right to do vs what is right"

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 refers to the voice of inner soul, that is pure and driven by individuals value system.

(eg) → After chawra chawra incidence, withdrawal of the non-cooperation movement.

Conscience : moral compass →

- ① lead to rightness / wrongness predisposition.

(eg) → Conscience of Albert Einstein before nuclear test, kept him away from manhattan project

- ② promote ethical decision making

(eg) → Project sweepnet by chanchal Rana for transgender upliftment

- ③ promote Global welfare

(eg) → vaccine malvi, India

But, Conscience shaped by Society & upbringing -

① Brain washing by the particular group

↳ terrorist recruited by the ISIS

② Past experience led to deep seated change in inner voice

↳ Hitlee's Nazism, ^{hate} toward jews.

③ family's reward and punishment mechanism shape the conscience

↳ Conscience to do help to people in distress condition

Conclusion

Conscience is purest voice but later with the socialisation and other factors it can be exploited to serve the vested interest.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction
Body
Conclusion
Presentation
Marks:

Suggestions:

(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)

Ancient Indian philosophy are the reservoir of the wisdom to promote the sustainable development

Indian philosophies guiding in balancing development and ecological sustain.

① Philosophy of "Vasudhaiv Kutumbkam"

- ↳ promote pacifism in the world, leads to less war \Rightarrow less environmental damage
- ↳ Consider animal, plants as part of family.

② 'Charity principles'

- ↳ first 'roti' (bread) to cow and cast to dog \Rightarrow stewardship

③ 'Save bhavantu sukhinah'

- ↳ promote happiness of the all jiva (includes all flora and fauna) in the development process.

④ 'Jivdaya' and 'Vanraksha' → promote the ecocentrism in action
 ↳ e.g. → Bishnoi Community

⑤ promotion of 'Right means'
 ↳ vedantic philosophy → promote right means of development

⑥ Jainism → 'non violence' (Ahimsa)
 ↳ promote the protection to wildlife
 ↳ e.g. → Vanaraj project by Reliance

⑦ Buddhism → 'Right Conduct' of Ashtang Marg promote global welfare.

Thus, environmentalism is deep rooted in our cultural ethos. Lifestyle for environment (LIFE movement) is just extension of it.

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)

Dr. B R Ambedkar, Constitution maker, via this quote wants to highlight the importance of value development along with skill development.

Cultivation of mind, refers to the constant learning with the change in society and environment. Socrates also prefer 'dialectic method' for the cultivation of mind.

It should be aim of human existence because it provides innovation and to new societal problem, tolerance to the new emerging ideas etc.

Relevance in present context →

① same-sex relation, may be against customary morality but in line with Constitutional morality (Navej Jauhar case) thus must be accepted.

② Bringing lifestyle changes to promote environmentalism in action
(eg) → using the cloth bag instead of plastic bag

③ Promotion of criminalisation of marriage marital rape to preserve the dignity of the women.

Thus "A human being dissatisfied better than pig satisfied" thus constant evaluation to one's values must be very frequent

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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

Aristotle, greek philosopher, via this wants to highlight the importance of 'middle path', between the extremes of the values, one should prefer the golden mean.

Here the cowardice and rash man, golden mean could be courage or bravery.

"Courage is the mother of all virtue" because it promotes the ethical decision making.

Coward calls brave man rash because these coward people ^{Courageous} action of the way always the rash action, they never faced or inculcated such values.

Rash man calls beave man coward because of the attitude for change and degree of such attitude

In present context →

① Constitutional means of ~~governance~~ (women reservation) → Authoritarian mind may term it slow
→ status quoist mind term it fast

② ~~lack~~ precision strike (operation Sindoor) → some may call it not desirable as we are advocate of peace
→ some want war to clear the war

This, 'golden mean' always leads to the best solution because these approach promote inclusiveness in change dynamics

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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

Immanuel Kant, via this quote wants to highlight the importance of the right actions, right thoughts in day-to-day activity.

Gandhiji also said that "Be the change you want to see in the world", shows the importance of the benevolence in day-to-day decision making.

Benevolent action comes to us because of our interdependence and integration with the surrounding.

All human being aspire to being positive changes^{in our life} thus we should be driven this positive attitude towards

(Don't write anything in this part)

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(Don't write anything in this part)

others, so that we can feel it our life soon.

Newton's law of motion also say that every action has equal reaction

In present context →

① Environment } → exploitation at earlier times
↓
Today Global warming

② UNSC } → Not reformed at right time
↓
Increasing conflict today

③ women empowerment } → Not promoted earlier
↓
decline of GDP potential (WFP)

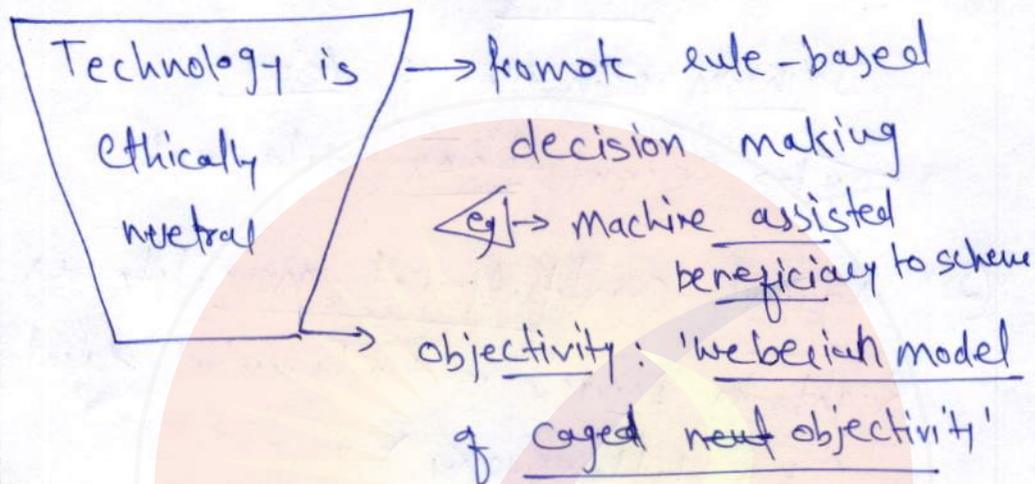
Thus, our action should be in line with ethos of global welfare, societal benefits rather than selfinterest.

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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

With the rise of IR4.0, technology becomes important to promote ethical decision making in democracy.



But ethical challenge to it by AI →

- ① Biasness in decision making due to bias data

eg -> Giving command to chatGPT for generating image people with left hand writing, showing image of ^{writing with} right hand.

- ② Infodemics → too much data led to hallucination

③ Reduces element of empathy,
Compassion
 ↳ Denying ration to destitute person
 in absence of ration card

Ethical challenge by data privacy →

- ① led to data theft, against the Jainism principle of Asteya
 ↳ Recent ICAR data leak
- ② Against Constitutional morality as Right to privacy is fundamental right (KS Puttaswamy)
- ③ led to potential future threat like: digital arrest, financial fraud etc.

Thus to avoid this 'code level censorship (open AI)', 'Algorithm impact assessment' must be promoted.

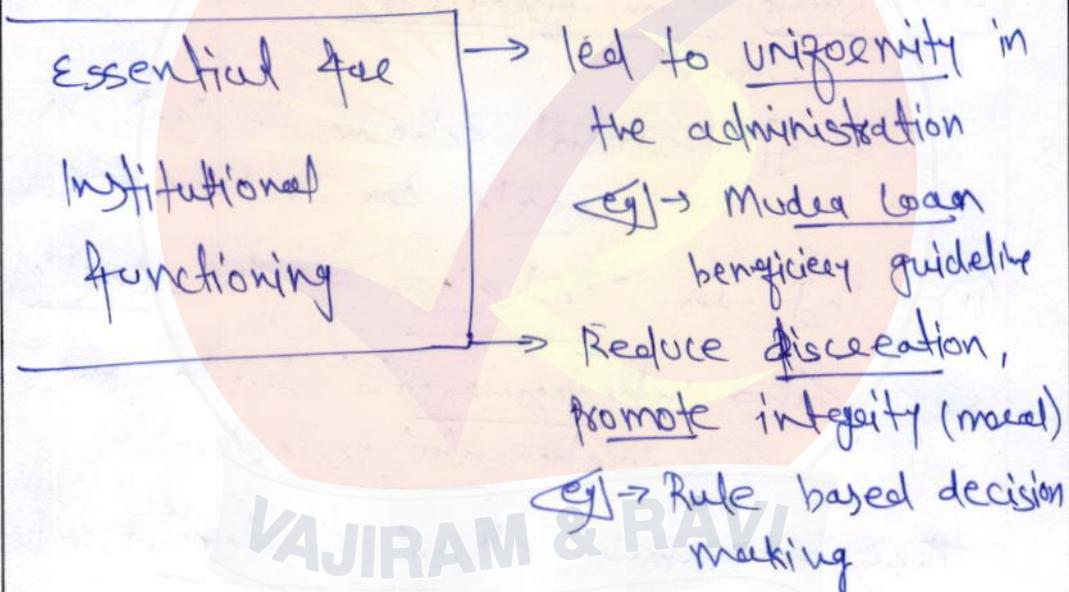
Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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

Rules and procedures are the formal means to regulate the behaviour of ~~each~~ individual (public servant) in the organisation

eg) → Civil services conduct rules bars individual to take gift above 5000 Rupees



But certain limitation →

- ① Rules becoming end in themselves (2nd ARC)
- ② status-quoist and risk averse bureaucracy hinders the innovation.

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Thus, we require ethical leadership and value based discretion →

① Promote the in-spirit application of the ~~law~~ rules
 (eg) → 'Dinner with Collector' by KOTA DM to reduce the stress among student.

② Read 'in between' the lines
 (eg) → IAS Durga Mittal bringing water to lahoria village.

③ promote Grandhian Rajrajya where justice prevails
 (eg) → special scheme to PWD in Kerala for inclusive development

④ led to reduction in the conflict
 (eg) → interdepartmental tussle over developmental project.

Thus to promote ethical leadership, value based
 2nd ARC suggested for 'code of ethics' to guide the behavior

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)

In a democracy, politics aims to promote the societal benefit, utilisation of resources and promotion of Inclusivity.

eg] → Indian democracy: ^{politics} aims to promote liberty, dignity, fraternity etc.

Yes, justified to remain apolitical →

- ① As per constitutional provision → Article 19(1)(a) → freedom of speech and expression also contain 'Right to Silence'
- ② To promote the choice: apolitical (Amartya Sen) is also a choice.
- ③ As per the Kantian principle of deontology → Can't force ~~pot~~ views on other ⇒ violates 'moral will'

But, rise of corruption, misutilisation of funds and money and muscle power rise

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Shows the importance of youth engagement

Not, justified to remain apolitical →

① "Injustice anywhere threat to justice everywhere" this formation of the justice in society require youth engagement

↳ Twitter discussion of farm laws.

② To maintain the efficient utilisation of the funds as government is trustee of the resources.

↳ 2G scam, Commonwealth scam

③ 'social contract theory' of John Rawls → promote engagement with state

④ Knowledge does split

"In a democracy silence of a citizen is more dangerous than the tyranny of a dictator" this active participation from

Students should not write anything inside the box - youth must be

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 refers to the the conflict in belief, values where satisfying one would lead to compromise on other.

3 moral dilemmas →

- ① Objectivity vs empathy → following the rule based approach vs the ethical decision
eg → displacing the tribal for development vs respecting their culture.
- ② Innec responsibility vs senior's order (outer accountability)
eg → senior forcing to sign the file that promote the unethical decision.
- ③ Personal benefit vs societal benefit
eg → Accepting bribe or not for

the clearance of project.

ethical frameworks →

① Common good approach → promoting the common good of the society

↳ eg → EIA for development project

② Right approach → rights of the citizen must not be violated

③ Utilitarian → promoting the greatest goods for greatest people

↳ eg → AFSPA

④ Virtues → what virtuous people will do

↳ eg → Integrity, efficiency

⑤ Justice approach → promoting just society

↳ eg → reservation benefits

Thus we can resolve the moral dilemma to ensure the welfare society (Article 38).

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)

Recent controversy in Olympic 2024, led to intense discussion over the ethicality of decision and dilemma of fairness vs inclusion.

Allowing transgender in women's sports

- ① According to Inclusion principle
↳ promote inclusivity.
- ② Rights approach (Justice John Rawls)
↳ promote the rights of the transgender people.
- ③ As per the UDHR principles, everyone should be given chances.
- ④ Grandhian ethics of inclusion promote the inclusion of transgender person.

Fairness over inclusion →

- ① Promote the 'healthy Competition' in the sports.
- ② 'level playing field' to everyone.
- ③ As per 'Rule of Law' principle of (Equality before law)
- ④ No relative advantage or disadvantage

But concern →

- ① Lopsided development (eg) → K shaped gap
- ② Ignore the 'historical injustice' given to people (eg) → social discrimination in past
- ③ Promote majoritarianism in the decision making

Thus we need an approach that led to Inclusion along with Fairness like: reservation policy.

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)

Civil servants today faced dilemma of 'personal well-being' vs 'professional responsibilities' due to rise of nexus of politics and bureaucracy, rise of money and muscle power in administration.

To resolve this Buddhist principles →

① Ashtang marg →

↳ Right conduct

eg → E. Sheedhaiah in Delhi metro.

↳ Right earning

eg → Satyendra dubey in NAAI
turning down bribe-

② Check on desires

↳ led to Contentment in life

eg → Dr APJ Abdul Kalam

④ 'Forthfulness' in the conduct

↳ → TN Shesham enforcing MCC during election

⑤ 'Non-violence' (means not only conduct but also thoughts)

⑥ 'Integrity' in the daily conduct

↳ → Ashok Khemka

⑦ 'detachment to physical world'

↳ led to minimalism in lifestyle

Thus, we can promote ethical conduct leading to "happy and desired life"

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.

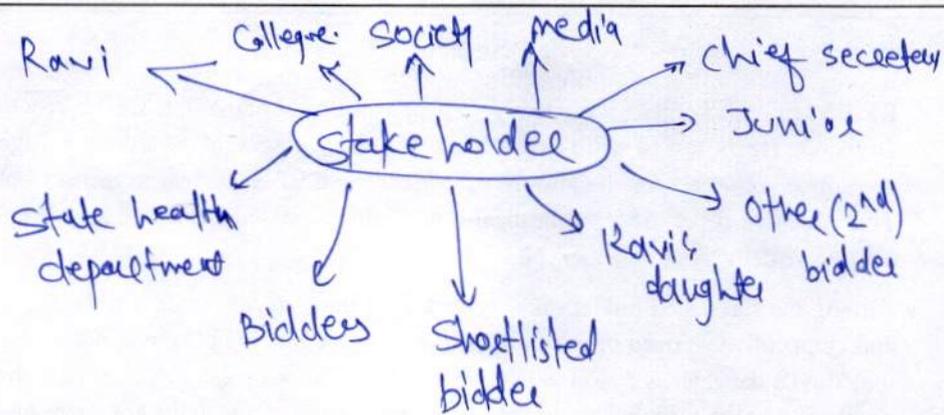
Ravi is aware that while there is no formal requirement under departmental rules for recusal in this situation, the All India Services Conduct Rules do emphasize the importance of avoiding not just actual impropriety but even the appearance of impropriety. One of Ravi's senior colleagues advises him 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)

Above case highlights the potential Conflict of Interest. To solve such issue Ravi must show non-partisanship and wisdom to uphold the Justice.



a) Ethical issue →

① Ravi's ethical dilemma

↳ professional duty vs personal duty

② Loopholes in the departmental rule

↳ no guideline for recusal

③ Potential conflict of interest

"Justice must be seen to be done"

④ 2nd bidder → political connection,

↳ past project → cost overrun

"wealth without work" Grandhian Sin.

⑤ Colleagues' advise against the

All India Services Conduct Rules.

⑥ Junior's hasty decision shows lack of patience in the him
↳ against the good work culture

⑦ Media trial → against the code of ethics of the media.

⑧ options →

Option-1 → Going ahead with the process

<u>basis</u>	<u>evaluation</u>
<u>objectivity</u>	⊕ may be <u>maintained</u> due to <u>sound</u> technical knowledge of bidder
<u>Integrity</u>	May be <u>threaten</u> as <u>wholesomeness</u> (violation of All India service <u>conduct</u> rules)
<u>accountability</u>	<u>upholding</u> the bidder, based on <u>fact-based</u> reasoning
<u>Transparency</u>	Promote the <u>transparency</u> with <u>allocation</u>

option-2 → going with 2nd bidder

Objectivity } → Compromised as not
Integrity } see the rules of the
Accountability } bidding
Transparency } → personal benefits

option-3 → recusing from the process

Objectivity → "Justice must be seen as done"

Integrity → "Caesar's wife must be above suspicion"

Accountability & transparency } → following the All India conduct rules.

(c) Ravi must take option-3

Course of Action

(i) recusing from the case itself

(ii) delegating the Authority to someone else

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Justification } → As per the Conscience voice
 } → promote Laws, rules and regulation
 } → (All India service Conduct-rules)
 } → 'Trust' of society must be upheld

④ Ravi can manage →

Personal relationship } → ① telling daughter to go with the bidding and helping her as father

Political Influence } → following the duty principle
 } → public welfare and social capital at top priority

Institutional norms } → setting the precedence for future servants
 } → uphold the positive work culture

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction
Body
Conclusion
Presentation
Marks:

Suggestions:

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.

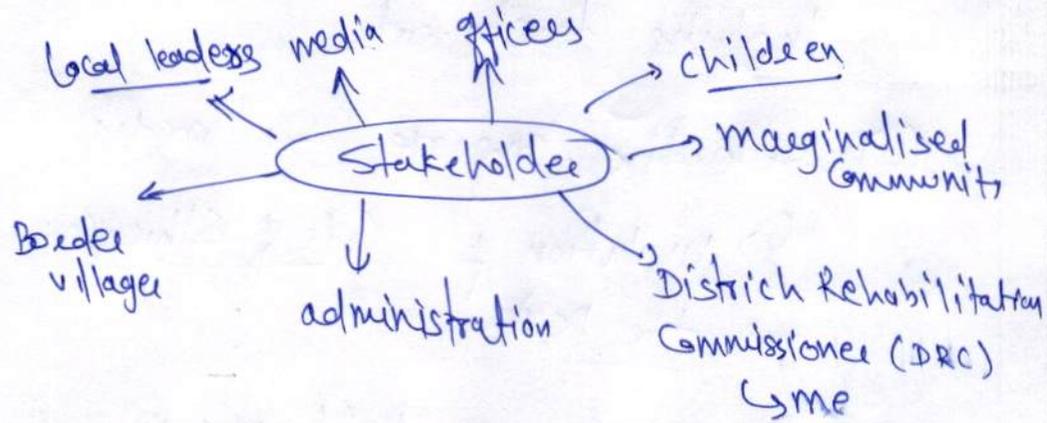
However, you soon discover a distressing reality: Relief distribution is marred by corruption, funds are being siphoned off, and material aid is being diverted to private godowns. Caste-based discrimination in compensation lists is rampant and marginalised communities are systematically excluded. Political 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)

This case shows violation of
Constitutional principles like: Article
38, and civil servant values like:
neutrality, non partisanship in the
plutant manner.



9) Core ethical issues

① Cross border shelling in border area against 'principle of the panchsheel'
↳ violation of UN-charter

② Political leaders seeking vote bank politics in destitute condition
"politics without principle" is Gandhian sin

③ Disadvantage to marginalised community
↳ against the UDHR principle of

Inclusive development

④ selective coverage by media
↳ violation of Code of Ethics (by the PCJ)

⑤ Indifference of field officers
↳ violation of values like Integrity, dedication to public service
↳ promote the best work culture

⑥ Children ⇒ denied education
↳ violation of Article 21A

⑦ Corruption: misutilisation of funds

⑥ Immediate Cause of Action →

① Meeting with local leaders to reduce the threat element of stir
↳ convincing them for real purpose of politics
↳ if not convinced then as last resort, preventive detention

② meeting with field officers
↳ waarning them to do their duty with dedication and Integrity
↳ future violation will lead to suspension (Threat element)

③ Private godowns, involved in Corruption, must be arrested with immediate effect to prevent fund diversion.

④ Now preparing the compensation list based on objectivity and compassion

⑤ opening up the school as soon as possible.

⑥ In compensation list prioritising the PwD, children, women and old age people.

⑦ meeting with media personal to go for ground reporting 'cases to administration'

- (c) managing political interference →
- (i) Registering : the objection on the file as noting
 - (ii) Restricting : myself from taking bias action
 - (iii) Redesign : the policy based on neutrality and inclusion
 - (iv) Recessal → from taking decisions
 - (v) Resign → as last resort
- (d) maintaining emotional balance & compassion
- (1) Development of emotional intelligence
 - (2) Promotion of LRR in decision making
 - (3) Bringing Kandham talisman in decision making
 - (4) Promoting the welfarism → in spirit implementatory

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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9. You have recently been appointed as the senior administrative officer overseeing coastal development planning in a remote and ecologically sensitive island region. The area is globally recognized for its marine biodiversity, dense mangrove forests, endangered wildlife, and the presence of indigenous communities that depend on traditional livelihoods closely linked to the land and sea. It is also a haven for rare species of birds and is surrounded by vibrant coral reefs teeming with marine biodiversity. Protected as a biodiversity hotspot, it has long been revered as a sanctuary for conservationists and eco-tourists alike.

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

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

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

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

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

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

(20 marks, 250 words)

Present case shows the similar development happening with the Utreat Nicobar project.

(a) Ethical dilemma

① Environment (V/S) development
Protecting the environment ↙ ↘ infrastructure projects

② political interest (V/S) Local Adivasi tribes' live
Going ahead with project political interest serves ↙ ↘ livelihood of local Adivasi compromised

③ Environment (V/S) security
↙ ↘ wild life conservation ↙ ↘ strategic location of project

④ means (V/S) ends
↙ ↘ unsustainable means ↙ ↘ prosperity of the region

⑤ Voice of Conscience (V/S) development
Promoting the vulnerable section's benefit | ↙ ↘ development for corporates

⑥ option-1 → not going ahead with project

merit	demerit
① <u>save</u> <u>endanger</u> the <u>wild life</u>	① <u>strategic</u> interest
② <u>upholding</u> the <u>vulnerable</u> <u>communities</u> <u>right</u>	② development of the region

option-2 → going ahead with project

merit	demerit
① <u>personal</u> <u>benefit</u>	① <u>Rights</u> <u>violated</u> of the <u>tribals</u>
② <u>trade</u> and <u>investment</u> in <u>region</u>	② <u>Against</u> <u>environmental</u> <u>Ethics</u>

option-3 → stakeholder consultation and EIA

merit	demerit
① <u>promote</u> <u>deliberation</u> in <u>decision</u> <u>making</u>	① <u>promote</u> the <u>vested</u> <u>interest</u> by <u>NGO/CSO</u>
② led to <u>democracy</u> <u>sleeping</u>	② <u>consultation</u> may not <u>achieve</u>

(c) steps

- ① meeting with Local Communities and noting their grievances
- ② meeting with CSOs separately to know their concern
- ③ An all stakeholder meeting to publicize the government's plan and to incorporation of their demands in the final document.
- ④ In case of Conflict, checking whether such development is necessary or not



→ Convincing the Indigenous Communities

→ removing that part of development from overall plan.

- ⑤ Thus if Consensus reached, going ahead with project.

- ⑥ If not, taking help from local leaders to convince the people.
- (d) long term policy and institutional reforms
- ① mandatory Environment Impact Assessment (EIA, 1986) → to bring out the consultative mechanism
 - ② Social impact assessment to reduce the grievances of the local people.
 - ③ Fair implementation of laws like: Land Compensation Act etc.
 - ④ limited private participation to bring beneficence in decision making

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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

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

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

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

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

(20 marks, 250 words)

"Twitter is the seismograph
of the society"

Shows the impact that social
media platform today holds.

- (a) Ethical issue in influencers →
- (1) Brain washing of the youth
↳ exploitation of the emotions
 - (2) promoting radical views
↳ against the value based education system
 - (3) Unethical behaviour promotion
↳ criticising the institution without any facts/reason ⇒ shows the prejudice in decision
 - (4) lack of objectivity and rationality ⇒ too much relied on the influences.
 - (5) Again Does 'knowee-Doee split'
⇒ conflict between action and thought
 - (6) Against the utilitarian principles

because of the narrow mindedness

⑥ Role of public figures →

① Restricting the content that promotes threat to security and sovereignty of Country
(Article 19(2) of the Constitution)

② Value based education like:
rationality to develop the Capacity of the Individual to differentiate between the contents
(Nai Talim of Gandhiji)

③ Code of Ethics for the influencers to promote rationality in the Society.

④ effective application of IT Act, 2008 and IT Rules 2021 to web

such manipulative content

⑤ strict watch by the government over social media to warden such influence.

⑥ laws like: curbs on social media for age below 18
(Recently Australia passed the bill)

⑦ Policy framework or guideline

① promoting the ethical values like: rationality, objectivity

② displaying the facts rather than just propagating the opinion.

- ③ Keeping in mind the stability and the morality of the society while propagating the views
- ④ Views must be backed by some intellectual research rather than propaganda
- ⑤ 'Restriction on free speech' must be obeyed (Article 19(2))

"Rights without Responsibility" is the sin added by Am Grandhi, must be obeyed!

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

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

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

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

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

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

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

(20 marks, 250 words)

① Ethical issues →

① with AI adoption

↳ Biasness in the data
against 'veil of ignorance'

↳ non-inclusive in nature
due to lack of vernacular support

↳ non-benevolence to the stakeholder

↳ promote malfeasance in the decision making

↳ promote injustice in the society against the John Rawls's Justice approach

② Environmental Concern

↳ Against the 'sustainable development' principle

↳ violation of 'ecocentrism' due to energy-intensive data centers

↳ Lack of Stewardship in the decision making

b) options

option-1 → Going ahead with project

merit → Personal benefits
↳ Company growth

demerit → bias decision making
↳ promote environment degradation

option-2 → Halting with project

merit → eco-centricism
in approach

↳ sustainable growth to Company

demerit → no immediate
benefit

↳ short-term loss

option-3 → Halting temporary ^{for retraining} and working on innovations like: clean energy for data centres.

merit → Company growth in long term
↳ middle path

demerit → rueting in short term

② option -3 must be chosen

Justification →

① As per Kant's Categorical Imperative
↳ as use of renewable energy in data centre can be utilis universalize.

(Don't write anything in this part)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

- ② Gandhian means
↳ unbias decision making and proper training of AI data center
- ③ Rights approach
↳ Right of all stakeholders including tribal people
- ④ Ubuntu ethics
↳ promoting the global/common welfare
- ⑤ As per corporate ethics principle
↳ promote overall benefit to society
- "science without humanity" is Gandhian sin.

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)

As per the WHO report poor air quality in Delhi causes loss of 11.9 years of life-time.

(a) option -1 → going ahead with strict action

option -2 → not doing anything
↪ status-quoism

option-3 → stakeholder consultation,
alternate availability (for fees)
then enforcing guidelines.

(choosing option-3)

- (b) Core values and principles
- ① Non-partisanship → without any political influence taking decisions.
 - ② objectivity → promoting rational decision making in the approach
 - ③ dedication → upholding the public welfare and promoting the societal benefits

④ Compassion → alternate for farmers, to secure their livelihood
eg → Ayaz - decomposer

⑤ Innovation → to reduce the trouble to general public
eg → GRAP → guided implementation

⑥ long term institutional reforms →

① society → promoting environment friendly lifestyle
eg → mission life
→ using public transport and reduce carbon footprint

② Government

↳ strict laws to curb the pollution

↳ implementation to create

the defect in the

↳ EIA mandatory system.

③ Individual

↳ following the fundamental duty (Art 51A) to promote environment conservation

↳ Adopting LIFE movement

④ civil servant

↳ strict adherence to rules to enforce the regulations

↳ create the robust

(Don't write anything in this part)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

work culture for
environmental sensitivity

Thus, we can bring the
balance between environment
and development

"Our Earth has sufficient to
meet the need of everyone
but not for the greed of
anyone"

- Gandhiji

VAJIRAM & RAVI

Students should not write anything inside the box

Introduction	Suggestions:
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
Marks:	

Space for Rough Work



Space for Rough Work

