

## VAJIRAM &amp; RAVI

SURE SHOT TEST SERIES FLT - 2025

## GENERAL STUDIES

FULL LENGTH TEST

TEST - 8 (GS - 4)

Test Code - VR1054508

Evaluator Code:

Date of Assignment:

CQ:

NAME:

Sandeep Badad

Time allowed: 180 Minutes

ADMIN. NO.:

25 VR 101489

Email:

MOBILE NO.:

Submission  
Date:

09/08/25

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 -

End Time -

Mode of Examination

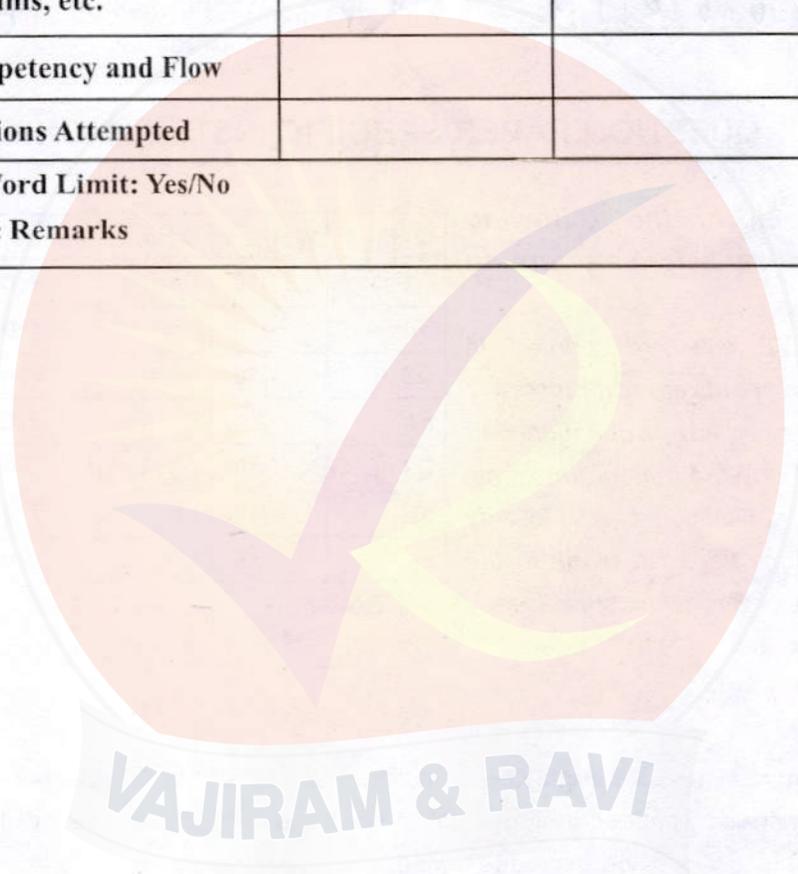
Online Offline 

Receiving date -

Dispatch date -

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"> <li>• Adherence to Word Limit: Yes/No</li> <li>• Subject-Specific Remarks</li> </ul>				



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## Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



## Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



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

## Section A

1. (a) Ethics is not morality, nor is it religion, law, or values, but it overlaps with all of them. Explain with relevant examples. (10 marks, 150 words)

Ethics refers to well founded standards of right and wrong, good and bad that have general social acceptance.

Ethics is not morality

- ① Not → Morality is personal belief of right and wrong while ethics is collective.

(eg) It is ethical to treat any patient.  
It may be immoral for a doctor to treat a terrorist.

- ② Overlap → Both guide human action.  
Both tend to act in good will.

Ethics is not religion

- ① Not → Religion prescribes values based on text and belief but ethics on reason.

eg Sati and other dogmas are religions but not ethics

Overlap → Both guide righteous conduct  
Religion has ethical promotion role

eg Value of compassion (Dala hana)

## Ethics and law

Not → laws are codified norms not always ethical

eg Sedition

overlap → laws are moral minimum and helps ethical adherence while ethics shapes law

## Ethics and values

Values are beliefs with emotional investment while ethics may include values but beyond it

eg Professional ethics & transparency

Thus ethics is broader and wider that enable peaceful human cooperation

(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)

Moral relativists view that principles change as time and situation evolves. Adapting to it is essential to prevent principles from becoming dogma.

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Moral adaptation & technological changes

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- ① Privacy → Art 21 prescribes respecting individual autonomy
- ② Inclusion in algorithmic bias era. needs → ethical AI like beneficence.
- ③ Technology tends to dehumanise humans  
↳ Decision maker must focus in connecting with people  
↳ WhatsApp group.

## Moral adaptation to societal changes

- ① Social change like individualism, gender equality etc needs attitudinal change
- ② Inclusive infrastructure  
(e) Syngamya Bharat Abhiyan
- ③ Reservation to LG BTU in Karnataka
- ④ Adhering to constitutional morality  
(e) Sobunola Case

Thus decision makers can adapt to changing realities by adhering to (constitutional ethos) and (conscience).

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)

Home is the [first school] and parents the first teacher. Due to formative years, any value inculcated becomes strongly rooted in children. Thus calls for right socialisation.

## Family as value education

- ① Mother → tender care, unconditional love  
creates compassion in children  
⇒ selflessness and sacrifice
- ② Father → Prithlibai ground Gemollis  
responsibility, civic sense  
Courage, discipline, integrity  
⇒ Responsible citizen, gender sensitivity
- ③ Grand parents → Bed time stories  
⇒ Panchatantra stories ignite  
courage, wisdom

## Family is breeder of negative values

① Poor character of parents reflect in children  
eg) Duryodhan was reflection of Dhritrashtra - unethical ruler.

② Fake sense of love → become obsessive

eg) Amoral families → nepotism

③ Attachment → hide mistakes of children

eg) errand citizens

Thus as APJ says for a nation to have beautiful minds and character the role of parents and teachers becomes crucial.

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

(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)

Public institutions are like a Sacred trust extended by public to the state to fulfill social contract.

Conflict of meritocracy & objectivity in promoting diversity, equity and inclusion

- ① May violate Art 14: RT to equality  
eg Targetted PM-KISAN
- ② Some argue that reservation hinders meritocracy.
- ③ Inclusion + Exclusion crosses  
eg PDS
- ④ Customary laws like Temple Sabak violate objectivity w.r to constitutional morality

They seem to be in conflict but actually they are congruent.

Balancing both:

- ① Principle of justice (Rawls) → treating the weakest specially is not discrimination
- ② Impartiality in decision making  
eg) Darinder Singh case identifies creamy layers
- ③ Uniform civil code → balance diverse laws with constitutional morality.
- ④ Humanising governance → Compassion and empathy.

Governance is thus not just about dignity & meritocracy but justice through inclusion, equity & diversity

Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

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 by Gandhi emphasizes the importance of effort and endeavour over the outcome.

It focuses on enjoying the journey without worrying to reach it.

eg) He himself engaged in crucifixion of weaker sections despite knowing that it could take decades or century.

Meaning : full sense

- ① Perform duty without worrying of goals.  
↳ Nishkama karma
- ② It enables focus on actual (present)  
↳ brings best as we live in present  
eg) M-S Dhoni in 20-20 (2007) worldcup

③ Persistence despite setbacks builds resilience & moral courage  
↳ Abraham Lincoln failed 52 times

④ Focusing on journey enables to use right means & dentology.

⑤ Essence of life is to enjoy the journey

because once you reach goal with ease  
↳ no glory no satisfaction

However, the focus on journey and persistence should not deviate from goal

Therefore while attempting to reach one's goal, one must be careful of rectifying and recalibrating the path.

"Greatest glory does not lie in not falling but it lies in rising every time we fall"

Introduction	
Body	
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Presentation	
Marks:	

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

The statement implies that one is not just responsible towards oneself but also towards others.

It underscores the moral obligation of humanity towards fellow human beings

eg IAC movement

Meaning: broader sense

① Selflessness → to stand up to others  
↳ injustice eg Raja Ram Mohan Bay against sati

② Essential for progress  
↳ justice cannot be relative

③ Without caring for others justice → Society  
↳ becomes 'matang nyang'

- ④ Underscores communitarian ethics  
↳ to care for each other
- ⑤ Democracy cast duty to fight for justice  
(e.g.) Participation in protest against corruption is civic duty

⑥ Gandhiji said it is duty of everyone to ensure justice for all

- ⑦ Without caring for others justice leads to moral bankruptcy, apathy  
(e.g.) Bystander effect in road accidents

Thus, "injustice anywhere is threat to justice everywhere" (Martin Luther King Jr.)

underscores the need to stand up for justice at all situations

Introduction	
Body	
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Marks:	

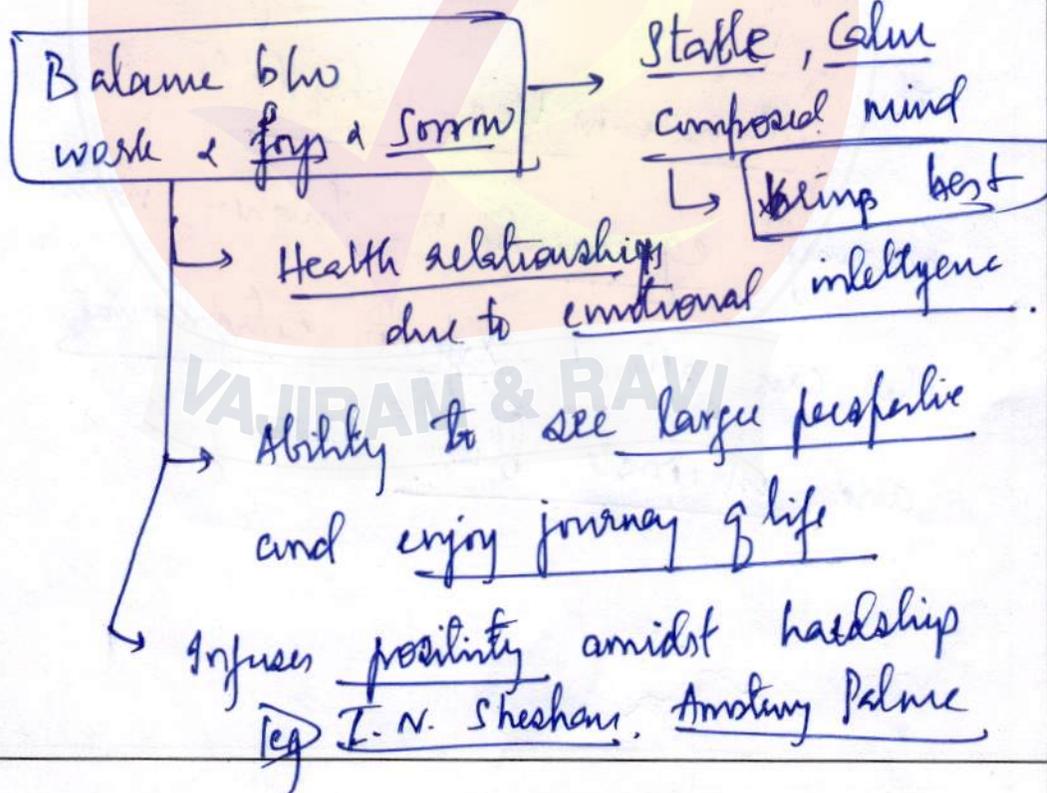
# VAJIRAM & RAVI

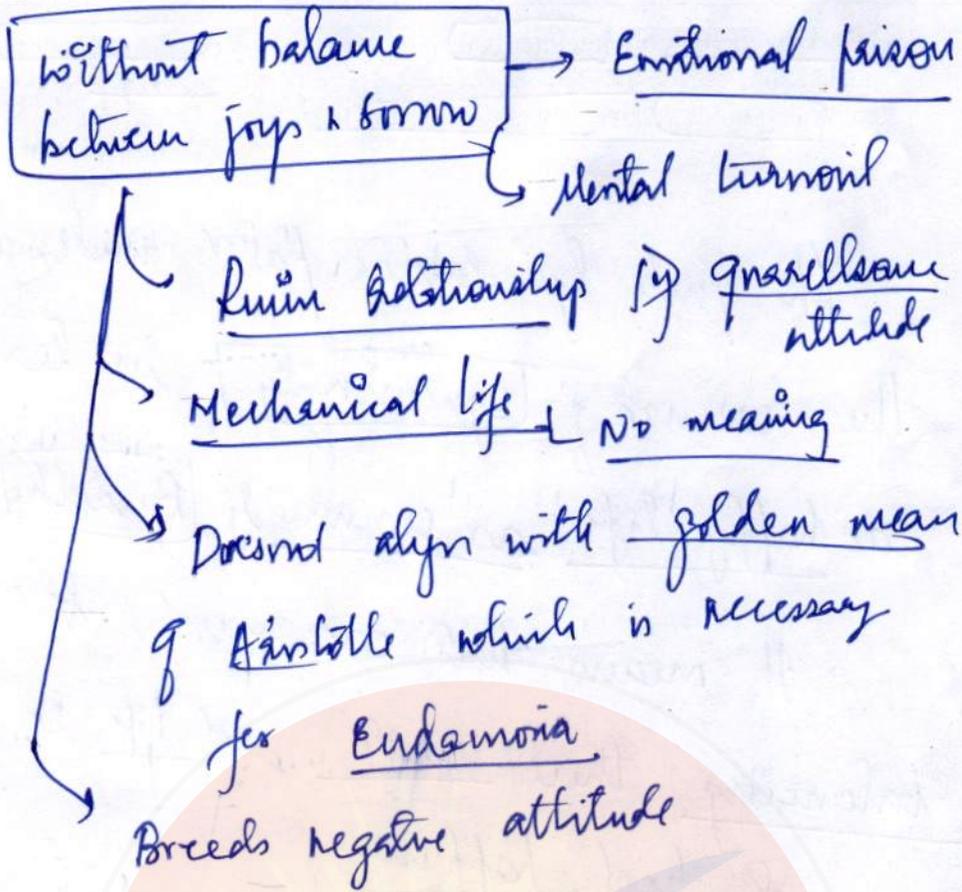
(c) "Work is worship, but laughter is life. Anyone who takes life too seriously must prepare himself for a miserable existence. Anyone who greets joys and sorrows with equal facility can really get the best of life." Sardar Patel.

(10 marks, 150 words)

The quote by Sardar Patel underscores the essence of equanimity in leading a happy life as conceived by Buddhism.

It means that one must be balancing their work and life in order to find happiness.





Thus, as Buddha and Gita puts if "Samatvam Yog vichyate" — meaning equanimity is highest virtue that can allivate life to enlightenment and ultimate bliss.

Introduction	
Body	
Conclusion	
Presentation	
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 was designed to bring education system that serves and prepares children for both life and livelihood

NEP: Holistic education

① Employability → Vocational education till grade VIII  
↳ Quality, multidisciplinary higher education

② Ethical education → Curriculum with Indian ethos  
↳ Team building  
↳ Value development through sports and physical activities

③ 'Pledge' in schools.

## Ethical significance of shift

- ① Creates a good citizen, not just a good laborer
- ② Ignites conscience → moral values of society progresses
- ③ Responsible citizen of future energy
- ④ Value education breeds a generation with character.
- ⑤ Intine with Gandhi's "knowledge with conscience"
- ⑥ Can address national issues like corruption, patriarchy, communalism

Educational is intelliyance plus charanted.  
And investing in it gives best return.

as envisaged through NEP 2020 to  
create a Aamrit Pedhi for Aamritsar.

Introduction	
Body	
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Presentation	
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)

The statement captures all facets of tackling the arena of corruption that has been slow poisoning one nation as noted by Corruption Perception Index of 96 Rank.

(I) Punitive vigilance → deters corruption  
eg) Prevention of Corruption Act deters due to fear of penalty and imprisonment  
↳ Fear as tool to address.

(II) Preventive vigilance → reduces opportunity  
eg) e-tender, e-vigil, e-governance  
tools remove scope for contact, discrediting and infuse digitality

this reduce opportunity for corruption

(iii) Participative vigilance → Creates culture of transparency and accountability

(e.g.) social audit in MGNREGS led to better use of funds & wage

(e.g.) Civil & E.C.I enabled greater transparency in elections

(e.g.) Gramsabha holds the elected representatives accountable through vote

this participative vigilance makes governance democratic but other two also necessary for addressing the symptoms

Participation by public enables 360 degree, all time, and stakeholder ⇒ address root cause of corruption.

Introduction	
Body	
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Presentation	
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)

Private and public are only superficial compartmentals that seems sometimes to embrace public ethics above private ethics (Supremacy emmet).

Separation : counter productive

(1) Dehumanise public administration

(1) Rule based bureaucracy

(2) Emphasis on rigid objectivity

(3) Mechanical orientation to public service

↳ irr emove, insensitive

(4) Ultimately poor service delivery and poor fulfillment of social obligation

## Separation : necessary

- ① Enables fairer, dignity.  
↳ e-tender allotment w/o bias
- ② Direct opinion, views.  
↳ Private ethics may lead to personal discretion
- ③ Checks corruption, nepotism etc

## Blend of both

- ① Human centric governance  
↳ Dirig gndra
- ② Rule of law in sense of spirit

Relationship is DNA of governance &  
private ethics humans relationship in  
public sphere

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

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

Public service is blend of both technical competency and ethical competency because together they ensure human-centric and ethical governance

Necessity of technical competency

① Domain knowledge → must to work

eg) Electricity department to ensure efficient power supply

② Professional values and skills :

eg) Crisis management principles to handle floods.

③ Technology → in implementation  
e-governance initiatives

④ Infrastructure eg) A. Sreedharan in meter construction

## Ethical Competency: necessity

- ① Ensures NOLAN principles are adhered to
- ② Makes governance responsive, transparent & accountable
- ③ Upholds public trust & confidence
- ④ Enables to work effectively in leadership, challenging circumstances  
eg) Op Sindhoor - needed emotional intelligence
- ⑤ Constitutional duty to ensure equality & justice for all.  
Thus together they enable ethical governance - Mission Sarvagati  
seems to build this holistic competency

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

Governance involves direct relation with people. Ethical governance is when it is conducted with highest standards of values and principles.

This requires not just rules, laws, regulations and institutions but a well developed conscience. Because;

- ① Ensures objectivity is balanced with compassion for widow having document for pension benefit to disturb
- ② Facilitates resolving dilemmas for scarce resource allocation for welfare need and security needs

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③ Multicultural society → demands  
↳ tolerance and appreciation for diverse  
views

④ Constitutional morality is founded  
on conscience

⑤ Foster rule of law in spirit of law  
rather than letter.

⑥ Promotes substance over form  
core over periphery → service delivery

⑦ Brings compassion to governance  
and strengthens public trust

Thus well developed conscience

enables human-centred administration  
which can lead India to vision

of Viksit Bharat and Amsat Das

Introduction	
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Marks:	

(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)

The dilemma of immediate welfare goals and long-term progress goals often puts decision makers in a muddle as in above case.

Ethically defensible

- ① Utilitarian principle → space mission enable greater good of greatest number in long term (e.g. tele-medicine)
- ② Doctrine of double effect → short term tradeoff can be ignored

Undefensible

- ① Kantian imperative → human as ends not just means.

② Justice delayed is justice denied.

Yet, the benefits outweigh the concerns in long term so tradeoffs are necessary evil. They can be balanced by

① Tests of proportionality of means

② Principle of beneficence in long term

③ Basic Minimum needs at top priority than science

④ Wide use unlike nuclear - dual use

Gandhi's saying "Science without humanity is sin". So tradeoff can be justified if it evens greater good of humanity.

Introduction	
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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 dilemma 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.
- (c) What are the options available to Priya at this point? Analyze the merits and demerits of each option. (20 marks, 250 words)

The case is complex situation where two helpless humans needs and that of many underprivileged children need

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are in jeopardy as fulfillment of one led to risking other.

(a) Ethical issues in the case

① Means over ends dilemma.

↳ Inherent prioritised ends over right means

② Violation of trust imposed in Series administrator (trusteeship)

③ States failure of social contract as it failed to attend and care for poor Arjuni's daughter (no insurance security)

④ Moral Myopia arises from all these as they ignored cause of large underprivileged children education.

⑤ Risking reputation and possible future profits

⑥ Priya in dilemma to report accurately & conceal this information

⑦ Violation of rule of law → of maintaining accountability & transparency

⑥ Ethical dimension of Kulbarni's action in the case

- ① Utilitarianism ends over means
- ② Revelation of duty - misuse of power
- ③ Unprofessional conduct
- ④ Seems to have good intent and utilitarian idea

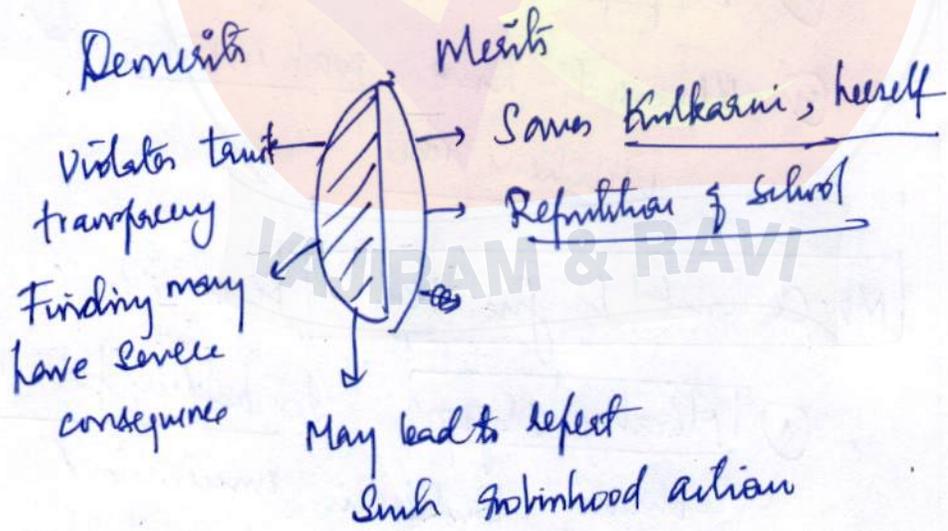
No. Cannot be justified because :-

- ① Morally Myopic: In helping few Indian - drugs. Kulbarni undermined justice to underprivileged children
- ② False sense of altruism & compassion

- ③ Violates professional code, public trust and trustship
- ④ Violates Kantian imperative of good action and treating every human as an
- ⑤ Buddha → akusala kammas Group undesirable outcomes

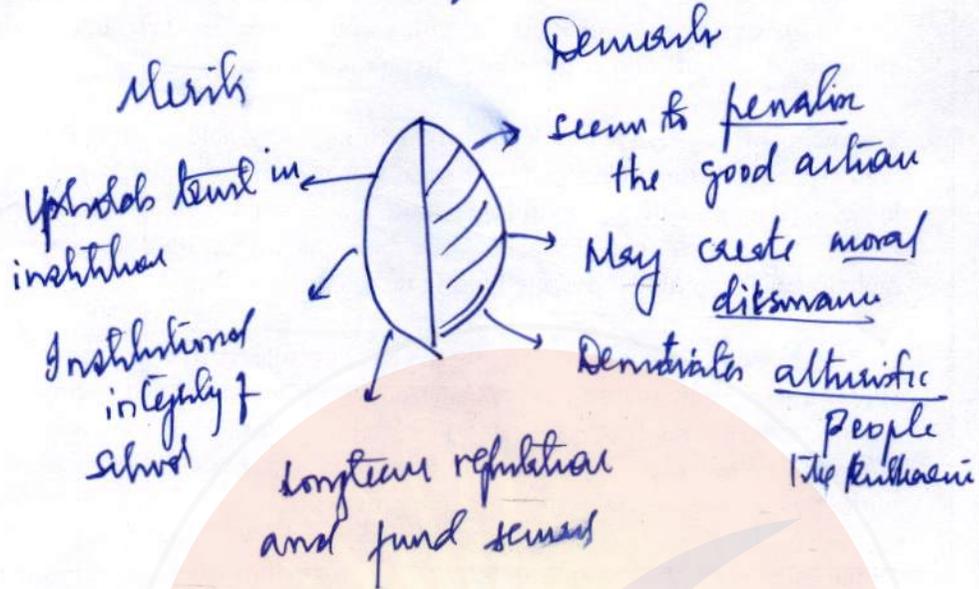
⑥ Options available to Kings

⑦ Conceal the diversion somehow:



SO, unworthy and unethical to pursue

## ② Honest reporting of diversion



## ③ Balanced approach

① Honest reporting to ensure trust, transparency and accountability

② Communicative - the genuineness to audit dept. to minimize severity of penalty as an one time exception

Long-term → Advocate and demand for

Emergency welfare fund for such cases

thus means and ends must be balanced for long-term good of larger section.

Introduction	
Body	
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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)**

The case highlights the deep seated corruption and unhealthy nexus of politicians - businessmen (Vohra committee) and it also shows political compulsions and incompetency of elected representatives.

⑨ Ethical dilemmas faced by Rajesh

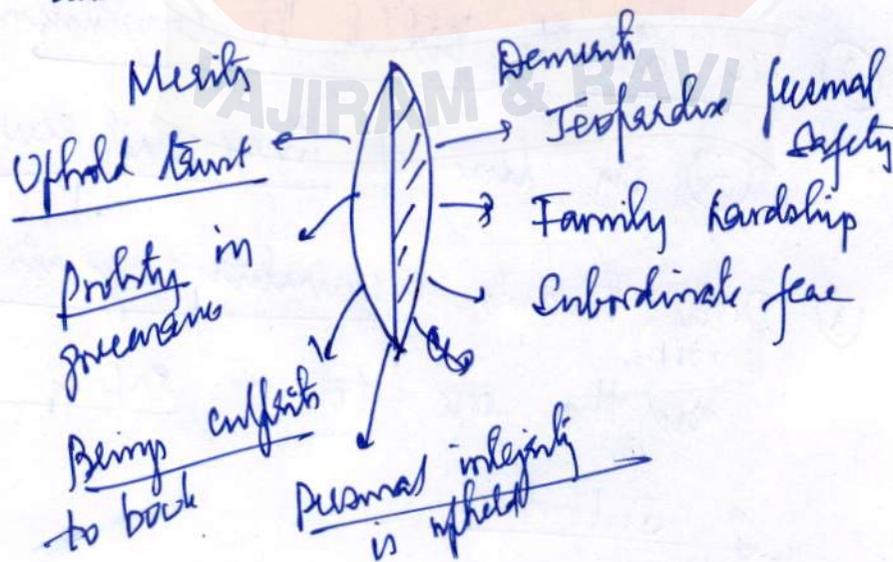
- ① Public duty to ensure corruption  
or private duty to safeguard  
elderly parents and personal safety
- ② To act in fidelity to constitution  
or in hurry of image and reward
- ③ Duty towards organisation's goals  
and the one towards safety  
of subordinates

④ other issues involve ; Corruption,  
political opportunism by opposite  
party councillor

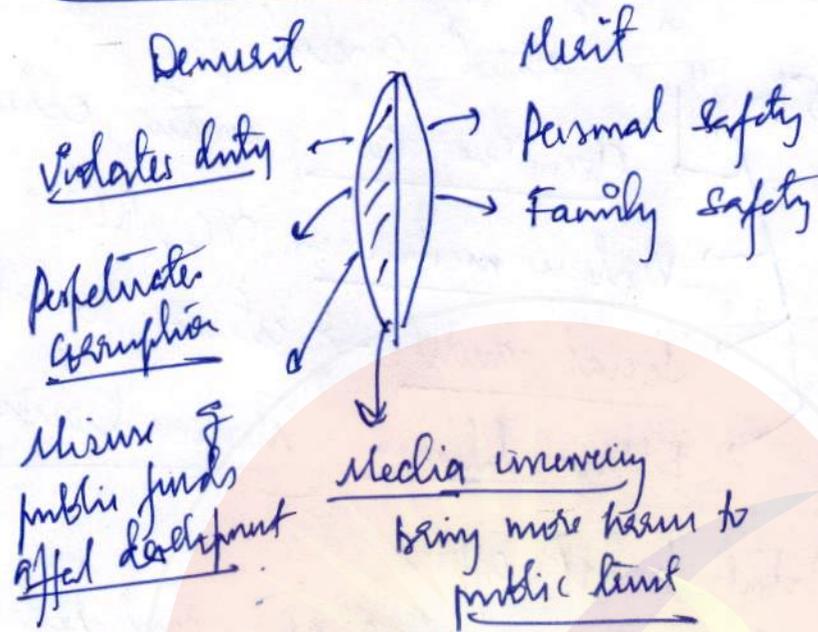
⑤ Emerging public trust in governance  
by ensuring proper waste management  
while action may hinder progress.

⑤ Options available to Rajesh

① To act firmly : Investigate the  
allegations and ensure transparency  
and accountability



② Maintain status Quo: Remain silent



It is unjustly and unethical to desert from duty.

③ Ethical challenges of whistleblowing

① Issue of safety → Death of Engineer Satyendranthi (NHAI Scam)

② Political interference → poor defence  
↳ often cases end up in poor convictions

③ Intent → for personal gain is unethical

## (d) Institutional reforms

- ① Strengthen ethical conduct
  - Strengthen Code of conduct, ethics code
  - Vigilance mechanism; OVC, RTI
  - Social audit → citizen participation
  - Ethical literacy - (Mansarovar Karamyogi)

## ② Protect honest officer

- Impart neutrality and reduce political interference.
- Fixing tenure (II A & B)
- Technology → like GPS to safety tracking

Thus, such dilemmas need Courage, Conscience and fidelity to Constitution to conduct aptly in public interest.

Introduction

Body

Conclusion

Presentation

Marks:

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)

The case represents complex interplay of objectivity, compassion, duty and service delivery:

## (a) Options

① Deny compensation (ex-gratia) as per rules.

- | <u>Ment</u>                                     | <u>Demerit</u>                         |
|---|--|
| # Uphold rule of law                            | # Protest continues                    |
| # Organisational ethos and discipline preserved | # dependent family vulnerability rises |
|   | # Projects prestige of department      |
|   | # Reduces morale of remaining workers  |

② Award Compensation ⊕ a job as per demands.

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<u>Merk</u>	<u>Demerit</u>
# Comprominate government postal family	# Bad precedent
# Broast union morale	# Embolden wrong conduct
# Cell off strike → resume waste collection	# Organizational discipline suffers

③ Balanced option of griny relief as a one time exceptional measure

<u>Merk</u>	<u>Demerit</u>
# Family & dinner-welfare	# Still strain on exchequer for no wrong
# Employees happy and secure	
# Organizational discipline intact	
# Public deserves resume	
# May aid higher productivity in long term	

⑤ My opinion : justification

I would choose option 3.

Course of action

① Thoroughly investigate matter for objectivity and transparency

② While persuading workers union to call of strike immediately assuring joint decision in the case and also warning of penalty for continuing

③ Case resolution → on compassionate ground → make exception as one time affair → offer either compensation or job. to serve welfare ethics

④ long term cut → is no clear guidelines about organisational policy on ex gratia and consequence for man strike

- ↳ Create an employee welfare fund for such exigencies in future.
- ↳ Further convey various social security schemes like PM Fasal Tyoti Shiksha Yojana. → Effective Governance

## ④ Steps in future

- ↳ Same or long term measures.
- ↳ Capacity building and training
- ↳ Regular monitoring and review conduct
- ↳ Participative approach → public reporting  
deemphasize work as on duty.

Such cases require balance of objectivity and compassion to ensure governance of the people, for the people

## VAJIRAM & RAVI

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)

Dowry prohibition Act criminalises dowry, yet India has over 3000 dowry cases as per NCRB

(a) Ethical dilemma of dowry

(1) Family honour versus Dignity

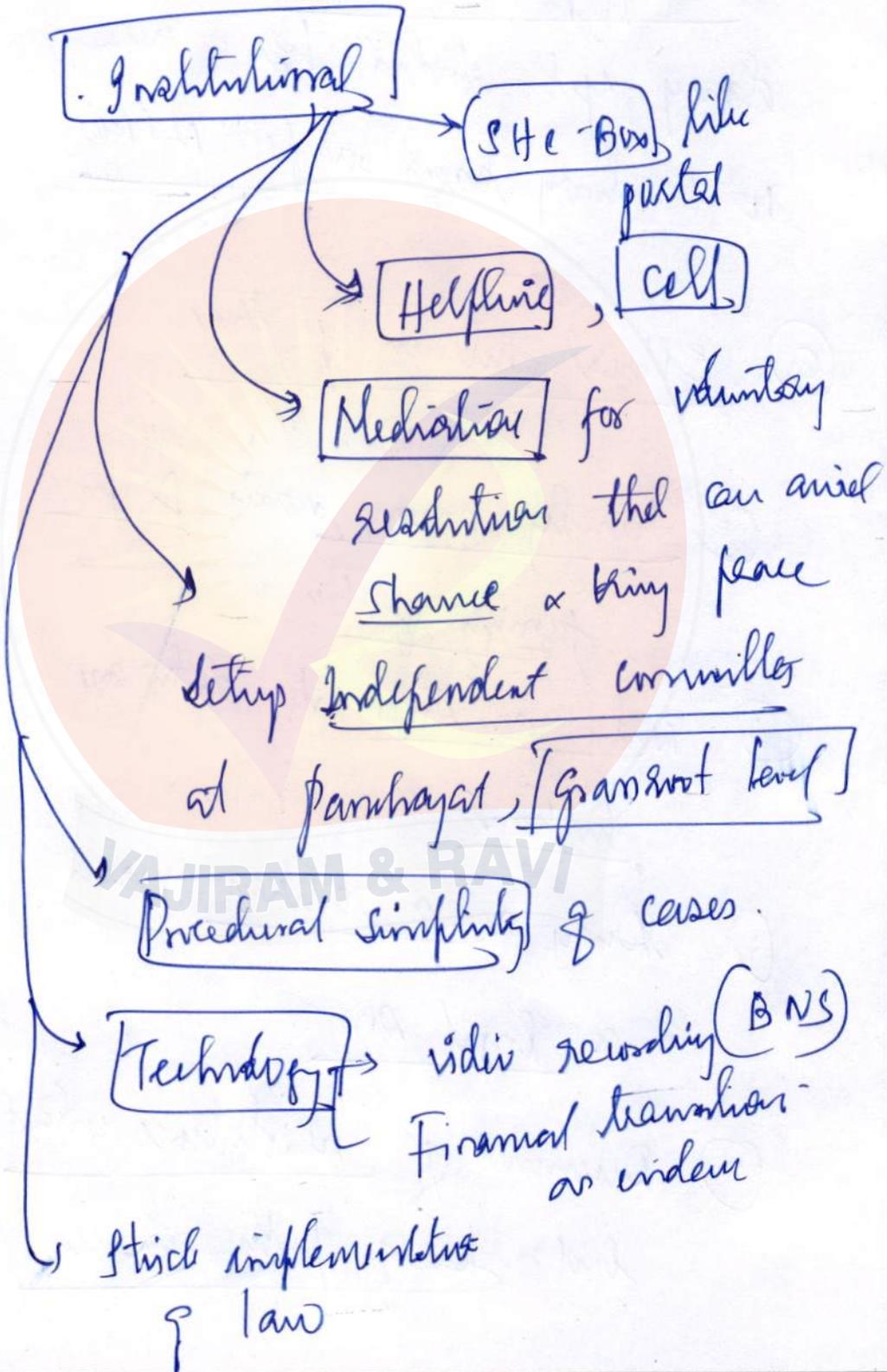
family justice

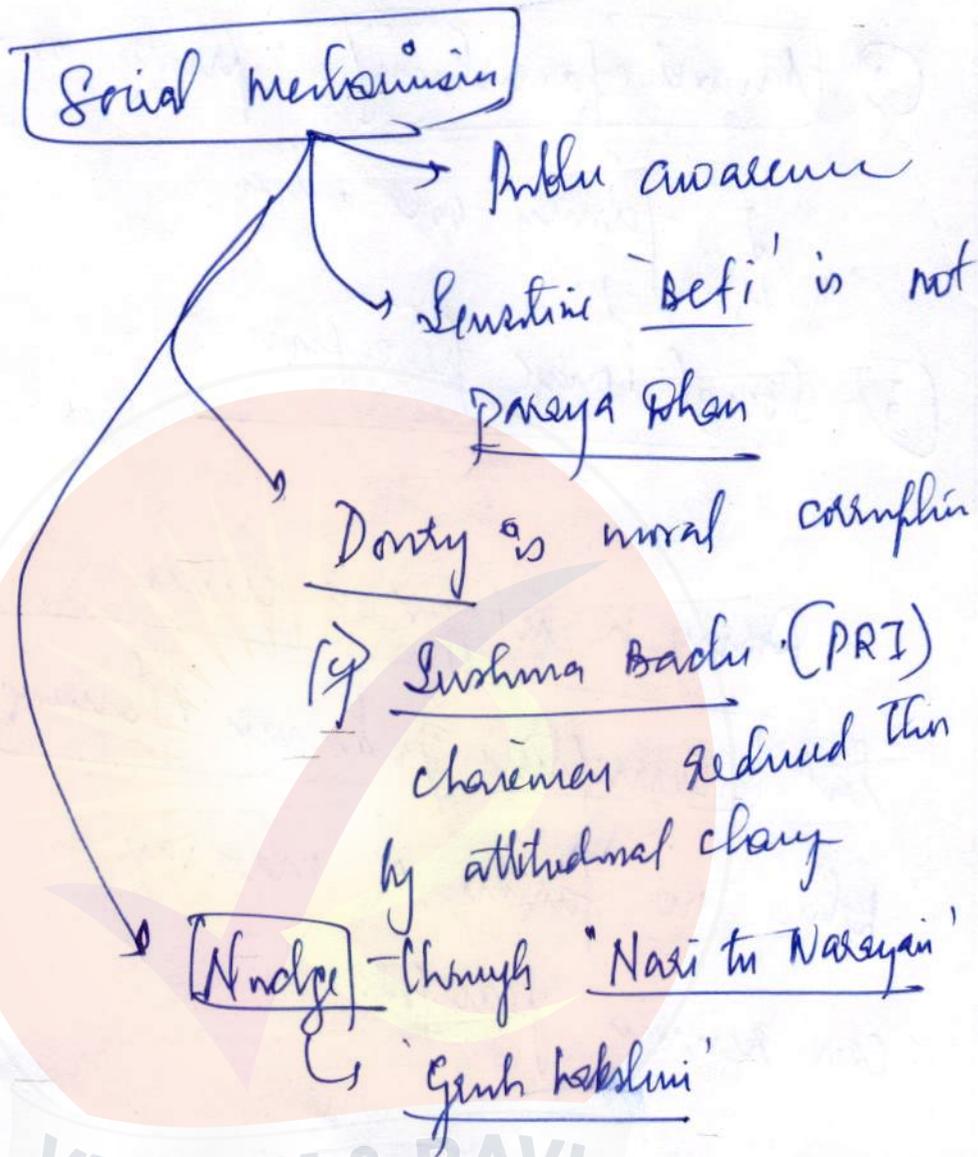
(2) Duty as son vs duty as husband

(3) Duty as a citizen versus a loyal son

(4) Dilemma of resolution intent but fear of public shame

② Mechanism that can prevent





③ Role of social conditioning in such cases

④ Deep loyalty → hinders conscience to act ethically

② Emotional fairness - priority over  
of family over other

③ Social image perception

Dowry is not just a crime  
but [corruption of human relationship]  
where no family or marriage  
can remain peaceful.

VAJIRAM & RAVI

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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. (20 marks, 250 words)

Case in full of dilemmas,  
conflicting interests and complex  
interplay of hazard, exploitation,  
environment and governance

9) Ethical dilemma

① To protect the flood victims  
of farmers

② Farmers needs of groundwater  
over the economic activity  
of fishes water companies

③ Environment conservation <sup>versus</sup>  
public welfare

④ Issue of corruption, pressure politics  
<sup>versus</sup> humanitarian crisis

⑤ Moral dilemma of chaos  
of interest and choices

① Escalation of crisis as protest  
erupted & redressal of flood

② Legal laws and policies enacted  
to ensure sustainable water management

③ Water Conservation Act ⇒  
↳ CPCB / SPCB  
Control Boards check pollution

④ Central Ground water Authority  
↳ regulates groundwater resources

⑤ Namami Ganga programme,

Swatch the River campaign

⑥ Water shed development → PM  
Kishu Sishay Yojana

⑤ Interlinkage of rivers → to balance surplus & deficit basins

⑥ Waste water treatment plants under SBM.

⑦ Amanat Sarovar programme to revive lakes and ponds

→  
⑧ Course of Action  
→

① Immediate priority to address food, water needs of flood victims

② Diffne & stormy farmers by assuring them justice and generous

- ③ Independent fact finding committee to ensure clear future and transparency of use, industries
  - ④ Crackdown on illegal, unauthorised borewells.
  - ⑤ Alternative for farmers by lakes as in 'Amrit Sarovar'
  - ⑥ Initiatives to augment use efficiency by strengthening implementation of all laws discussed.
- "Water is life liquid."  
"Jal hai toh Kool hai"  
It is not only Aranyas duty but every ones duty to conserve water and making it a Taraschobey can help ensure equity and sustainability.

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(Don't write anything in this part)

## VAJIRAM & RAVI

(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)

VAJIRAM & RAVI

(Don't write anything in this part)

# VAJIRAM & RAVI

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# VAJIRAM & RAVI

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# VAJIRAM & RAVI

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# Space for Rough Work



# Space for Rough Work

