

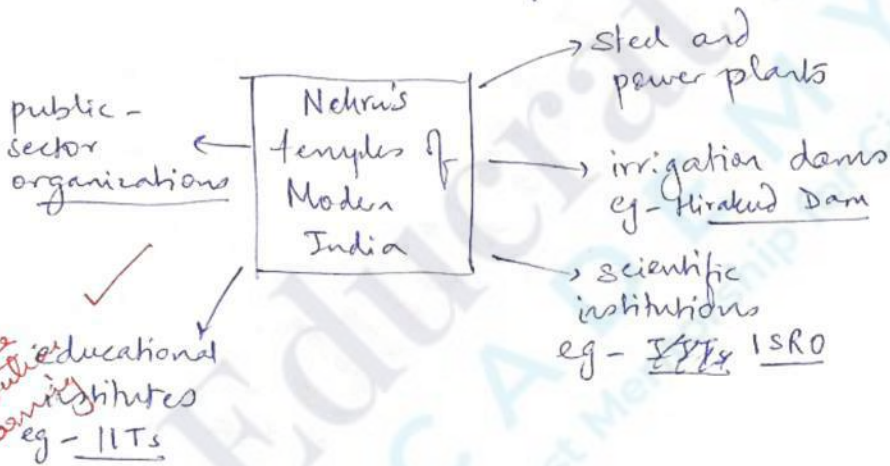
GENERAL STUDIES

Name of the Candidate	Sahars Kumar		
Email ID	[REDACTED]		Roll No.
Mobile No.	[REDACTED]		Date - 1/7/23

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No	Max.Marks	Marks Obtained		
1	10	3	1. Please write your Name, Email, UPSC Roll No. and Mobile number in the answer sheet 2. There are 20 questions printed in English, all questions are compulsory 3. The number of marks carried by a question or part is indicated against it. 4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate (English), which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. 5. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be struck off.	
2	10	4		
3	10	4		
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6	10	4	Any specific message from Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Mentor's Remarks:	
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19	15	0	Start Time: 2:40 pm	End Time:
20	15	0	Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
Total Marks		87	TEST CODE:	Medium of Examination:

1. "Nehru's 'temple of Modern India' consisted not only of steel and power plants, irrigation dams, but included institutions of higher learning, particularly in the scientific field." Elaborate. (150 words, 10 marks)

Pandit Nehru, the first Prime Minister of Independent India referred to certain institutions as temples of Modern India.



Question was about institutions of higher learning

BARC
IITs
IIMs
NPCL
AIIM

Significance of temples of modern India

- 1) Vital for India's growth - They were instrumental for India's steep growth trajectory
- 2) Capacity-building and human capital development was another important input.

- 3) Improvement of India's international image
- 4) Preservation of democracy in a newly independent country
- 5) Food security, development of scientific temper, economic development of India

India's journey in the past 75 years have been highly impacted as a result of these institutions.

The government must maintain the superiority of these temples.

2. Critically examine the nature and scope of environmental movements in independent India. (150 words, 10 marks)

Environmental movements are mass movements that are aimed towards the preservation and protection of environment.

Since independence, India has witnessed rising environmental awareness and protests against the ^{adverse} impact of economic development on the environment.

Nature of environmental movements post 1947

- 1) Mass participation - The Narmada Valley Bachao Andolan saw mass protests from various sectors of society.
- 2) Women-led - The Chipko movement saw massive participation from women, who clung to trees to stop deforestation.
- 3) Political Support - Many movements saw political support, mainly from Opposition leaders.

4) Short-lived - However impactful they were, the movements were short-lived and economic forces were largely victorious

Scope of environmental movements post 1947

1) Limited to particular geography - Chipko movement remained limited to forests of Uttarakhand, despite efforts of Sunderlal Bahuguna

2) Statutory framework - Since the establishment of the National Green Tribunal (NGT), and Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) framework, the environmental movement got a boost

With India's INDCs (Nationally Determined Contributions) from Paris Agreement and the Mission LIFE

focus, environmental movements may yet see a rejuvenation in future.

3. "After Indian Independence India-China relations started on a high note, but during the course of the coming years India had to face a bitter experience due to the Chinese aggression." Elaborate. (150 words, 10 marks)

India-China relations has seen a tumultuous change if we compare today with 75 years ago.

India's relationship just after 1947

- 1) Both countries were similar economically and looked to each other for support.
- 2) Good relationships at diplomatic level — Hindi-Chini-Bhai-Bhai slogans were used.
- 3) India - China tried to present united front against global geopolitical forces.

India's relationship today

Indian economy is relatively smaller; Chinese economic clout is extensive

Tensions almost along the entire border

Both countries are trying to emerge as net security provider in the region

Change in India-china relation →

- 1) 1962 war was the first shock that led to a downfall in relationships
- 2) China-Pakistan-Russia axis led to isolation of India.
- 3) China's policy of salami slicing along India's borders
- 4) China's claims of entire Ladakh and Arunachal Pradesh as its own.
- 5) Relations reached an all-time low during Galwan valley clashes and Tawang clashes.

Despite such relationship, India is largely dependent on China, which is the largest exporter nation to India and hence complete delinking is not possible. India should try to extend its sphere of influence to tackle China diplomatically.

4. "India's need for a federal system was more an imperative than a political choice." Do you agree? (150 words, 10 marks)

Federalism, which is understood as two power centres — the centre and the states — is a part of the basic structure doctrine and hence inviolable.

The Constituent Assembly debated on the need of a federal or a unitary government in India.

Importance of federal system for India

1) Colonial legacy — Provinces got since Govt of India Act 1935 and

they had been vital in administration

2) huge size of India called for multiple power centres

3) huge diversity in India made it difficult to have a single power centre

4) Regional challenges in India warranted

* The recent Partition involved 53 princely states. The loss of Kashmir is a tragedy of India.

the need of provincial governments.

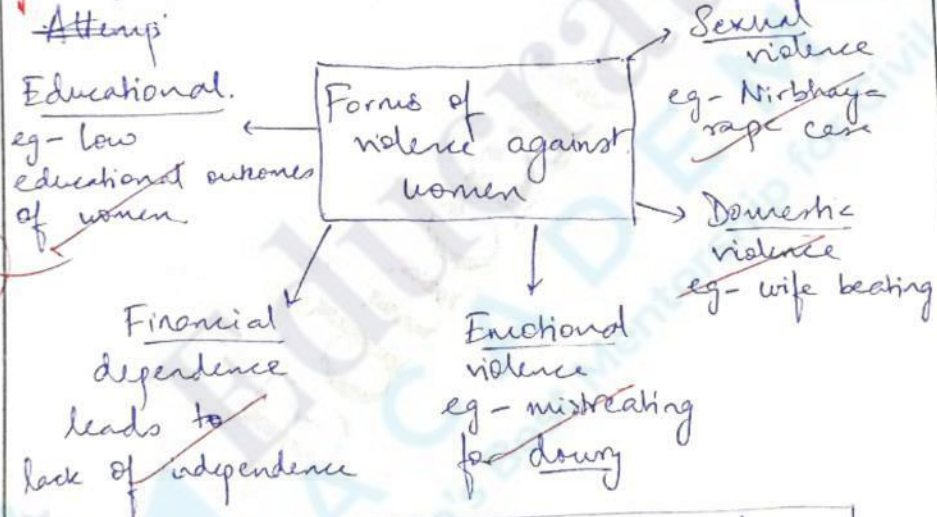
The Constitution makes finally opted for a federal government to ensure India does not become a dictatorship, and democracy is preserved

5) Gandhian idea of decentralization and how India lives in the villages made it imperative to choose a federal system of government.

India's choice of government to be federal was thus, more imperative, as democracy could not have survived otherwise.

5. In light of persistence of various forms of violence against women in India, discuss the ways in which the issue can be addressed effectively. (150 words, 10 marks)

Provide like NCERT data ranking
Violence against women is an unfortunate reality today. Despite various laws being passed since independence, this issue has persisted.



Ways to address issue of violence against women

- 1) Awareness among male members of society regarding importance of women.
Awareness among female members to raise their voice against such violence

2) Women empowerment initiatives

Educational

eg - SERB-POWER initiative for higher education of women

Entrepreneurship

eg - setting up of SHGs, Standup India scheme

Financial

eg - Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana for financial independence

3) Stricter punishment for perpetrators of violence → eg?

4) Stricter vigilance to ensure that safety and security of women ^{is observed}

5) Rehabilitation of victims - help through female police officers, Garima Greh for victims of violence.

We worship the Mother Goddess, but are unable to provide the same respect and dignity to women. It is vital to make India safer and achieve

SDG5 (gender equality)

6. Explain with examples how globalisation is manifested in both local in the global and the global in the local.. (150 words, 10 marks)

Globalisation can be understood as deteritorialisation or a borderless world. In today's highly inter-connected world, the ^{spread} impact of ideas, goods, people has been unprecedented.

Globalisation includes both having local goods/ideas available in the world market, as well having international goods/ideas available in the remotest of places.

Globalisation as local in the global →

1) AI tagged products are found in international markets, such as UAE. eg?

2) Indian diaspora has reached global heights. Eg - Sundar Pichai, Ajay Bange

3) Spread of UPI, RuPay to international markets. Sri Lanka is looking to adopt Aadhaar in the country.

4) Yoga - Spread and adoption
of International Yoga Day on June 21

Globalisation as global in the local →

1) Availability of international brands -

Such brands have made their way to remote areas as well. Starlink aims to provide internet throughout India

2) Transfer of technology - India has

adopted clean energy technology from developed nations. Recently, Apple has opened their stores in India.

3) Movement of people - Cities like

Delhi, Mumbai, Bangalore have become cosmopolitan.

Globalisation speaks of a united world without protectionist attitudes and war. India must be an icon of peace in today's globalised world for all to emulate.

more points can be added here

7. Social security should not only involve economic empowerment but also social empowerment. Discuss in the context of India. (150 words, 10 marks)

Social security refers to providing security to people of different classes and societal backgrounds. Eg - insurance schemes

Ambedkar stressed on the importance of social security when he stressed on one man, one vote, one value

Role of economic empowerment in social security →

economic empowerment

1) Economic independence - This will allow people to live life on their own terms

2) Access to various goods and services will be possible. Eg - access to quality education.

3) Development of confidence will lead to impactful and fruitful lives.

4) Lack of fear of shocks - Pension/insurance protects people from shocks like war

Role of social empowerment in social security →

1) Social empowerment leads to awareness and access to social security. Eg - PM Kisan scheme delivery to tillers.

2) Communal living - Social empowerment develops feelings of community to ensure people come together during calamity

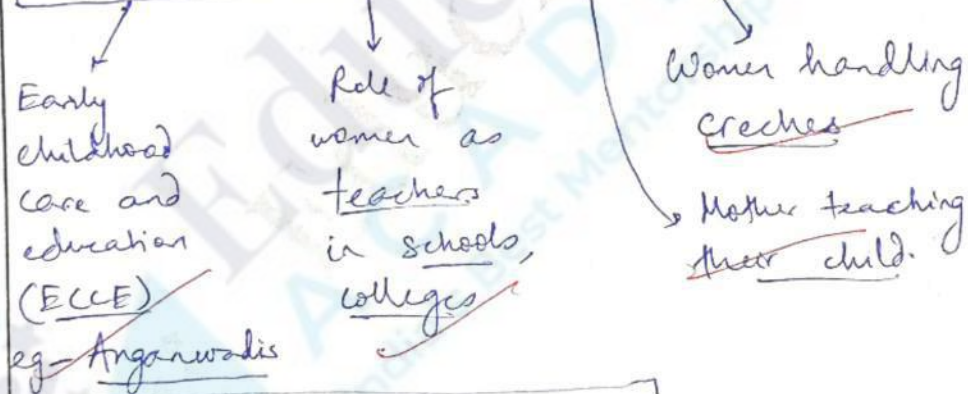
3) Inter and intra-generational mobility helps in people realizing the benefits of social security.

Social security is incomplete without socio-economic empowerment of people and IRDAI, PFRDA should work in conjunction with respective departments for the same.

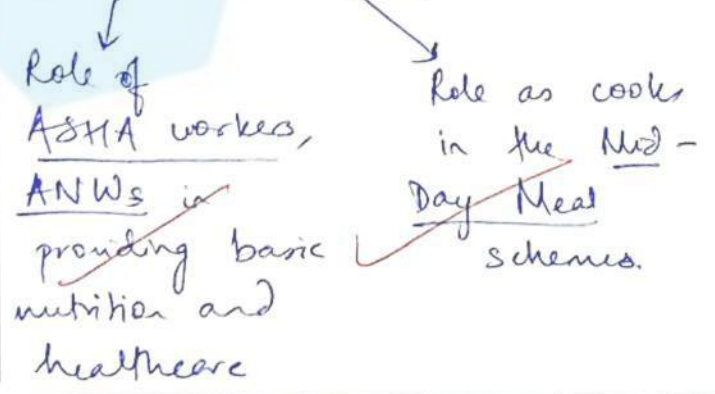
8. Discuss the role of women and women's organizations in various spheres of life such as education, health, economy, politics and social movements. (150 words, 10 marks)

Women and women's organizations play an indispensable role in the growth and development of the next generation impacting children in all spheres of life.

Role of women and women organizations in education



Role in case of health





9. Communalism In A Secular India Is A Threat To Minorities.

Justify. (150 words, 10 marks)

Communalism is an idea given by Karl Marx, who described it as a classless world.

However, there are always threats of such uniformity leading to become ~~the~~ a dictatorship of the majority.

Effect of communalism in a secular India

1) Single religion - A single religion would definitely take up tenets from the majority religion.

2) Uniformity in religious education and practices would lead to minorities losing their say.

3) Endangerment of ideas - Religious ideas followed by minorities would

become endangered and disappear completely.

4) Against Fundamental Rights - This goes against the rights given in Articles 25 to 30 of the Constitution.

Benefits of Communalism in a secular India →

1) Lack of polarization on religious lines

2) Lack of religious enmity, hatred and garnering votes on their basis

3) Societal peace

However, this uniformity comes at the sake of India's religious diversity.

India should be responsible for preserving the uniqueness of its minorities, rather than their assimilation.

10. Regionalism in India is a result of various interconnected factors. In this light discuss the various types regionalism in India and also suggest suitable measures to curtail negative impact of regionalism. (150 words, 10 marks)

Regionalism is understood as development of fanaticism and immense pride towards a particular region, rather than national pride as a whole.

Regionalism is of multiple types, depending on the factors of development

- 1) Economic inequality - Feelings developed in Telangana against Andhra Pradesh, Punjab against Uttar Pradesh
- 2) Cultural inequality - Developed between North and states of South India

3) Political regionalism - Developed in border areas, such as Kashmir, giving rise to secessionist trends

4) Son of soil movements - Against any outsiders. Eg - in Maharashtra against migrants

expression of a common sense identity and by specific regions

Separatist demand autonomy

Measures to curtail negative impact of regionalism →

1) Unity campaigns such as Kashi-Tamil Sangamam highlights the historical linkages

2) Protection to migrants through surveillance and creation of jobs

3) Equitable administration to ensure

no feelings of step-behavior

4) Awareness campaigns such as Ek

Bharat, Shrestha Bharat to encourage people to travel across and know the country.

5) Amending statutory frameworks or rules, such as Finance Commission's devolution formula to show equity.

Regionalism is a threat to India's unity, and efforts must be taken to ensure it does not become mainstream

11. The political and administrative reorganization of states and territories has been a continuous ongoing process since the mid-nineteenth century. Discuss with examples. (250 words, 15 marks)

States often undergo reorganization for a variety of factors. India too had 14 states and 6 Union Territories in 1956, while it has 28 states and 8 VTs today.

Reorganization of states refer to the process of deforming and reforming state boundaries due to different reasons

Reorganization of states since mid-19th century

1) Post 1857 war - When administration passed to the British Crown, India's political map went through a revamp, with acquiring different princely states

2) 1905 partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon broke Bengal into East and West Bengal, along with delimitation of boundaries of Assam and Bihar as well

1935 Act
Nagpur

- 3) 1911 annulment of Partition again reshaped India's political map
- 4) Post independence, India was divided into 4 groups of states - A, B, C and D, until 1956
- 5) Integration of Princely states and other areas - Junagadh, Kashmir, Hyderabad got added to India. Also, Goa and Sikkim got inducted in the country.
- 6) States Reorganization Act, 1956 saw establishment of 14 states and 6 UTs
- 7) Continuous reorganization since then starting with breaking of Bombay into Gujarat and Bombay to formation of Telangana in 2014, and abrogation of Article 370 in 2019.

Impact of reorganization →

- 1) Administrative convenience is a major reason
- 2) Ethnic and cultural ^{reasons} satisfaction ^{formation} was a major impact of ^{division} of Andhra Pradesh by Potti Sriramulu
- 3) Economic equity by formation of Telangana.
- 4) Slippery slope - Reorganization often encourages multiple such demands coming up.

In a country as vast and diverse as India, ~~reorg~~ reorganization is vital, but it must not come at the cost of national integrity and unity.

12. "Nehru's policy of Non-Alignment came to symbolised the struggle of India and other newly independent nations to retain and strengthen their independence from colonialism." Critically evaluate. (250 words, 15 marks)

Pandit Nehru was a pioneer of the non-alignment policy which upheld India's independence and its position of not aligning to any particular superpower.

This idea was mirrored by leaders of other newly independent nations like China, Egypt, Indonesia, etc and the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) came to be in 1961.

Reason behind India's stand of non-alignment →

1) Infancy of independence - As a new democracy, India did not wish to win the ire of any superpower.

2) Autonomy in foreign affairs - These countries did not want to align their entire foreign policy according to another country.

3) Individual interests - These countries were riddled with their own issues like food security, disease, tattered economy

4) Threat of war - India did not want to engage its resources in a potential war.

5) Fear of colonialism - These newly independent countries did not want to take their hard-won independence lightly

Possible benefits of alignment →

1) Economic growth - Aligning with a superpower could have led to infusion of capital, similar to Japan's economic trajectory

Limitation of NAM?

2) Technological advancement could have allowed India to become a nuclear power much earlier

3) Security bloc - This could have led to India forming a NATO-like security bloc.

At that time, not getting involved in the battles of superpowers was the right step for India. Our strategic

autonomy foreign policy has only been possible by our non-alignment back then.

Direction
towards
Patron

13. The caste system in India has continued to persist by adapting itself to a variety of changing socio-economic and political conditions in the past few decades. Discuss. (250 words, 15 marks)

The caste system has become an integral part of a majority population of the country today, and there is no end in sight.

Caste today is much more ingrained and this has only been possible through the way it has evolved over time.

Adaptation of caste to changes in India →

[A] Socio-economic changes -

1) Social mobility - It has led to inter-caste marriages, which has led to formation of sub-castes

2) Dilution of impact of caste of the rich - Although the higher caste get higher respect and adherence in areas of the country, the ultra-rich get similar

respect, irrespective of caste

3) Urbanization has led to dilution of caste, and caste pressures are largely felt in rural settings

4) Spread to other religions - Caste-like behavior has developed in certain sects of Islam, Christianity, etc as well

5) Instances today include that while people of different castes co-exist, they maintain distance. Eg - students of higher caste not sharing the bench with those of lower caste

☐ Political changes -

1) Reservation - It has allowed backward classes a means of upliftment.

2) Electoral behavior - However, it has also led to demands of reservation and its benefits for electoral gains

3) Preferential policy - As opposed to affirmative action, states have started giving preferential policy to majority castes. Eg - Marathas in Maharashtra

Way forward →

1) Misuse of caste benefits must be tackled. Creamy and non-creamy layer should be adhered to and expanded

2) Rohini Commission Report on sub-categorization of castes must be referred to

3) Support must be generated against the idea of caste distinctions through education, campaigns.

4) Sunset for caste distinctions and reservation must be discussed to give preference to meritocracy.

India in its Amrit kaal must aim to let go of the shackles of caste distinctions.

14. Child marriage in India is still a significant problem. Analyse the reasons for the same and suggest suitable solutions to expedite social change in this regard. (250 words, 15 marks)

Child marriage is understood as the marriage of a child, generally a girl below 18 years of age in India.

Child marriage is prohibited in the country through the Prohibition of Child Marriage Act, but remains a reality today.

Reasons for child marriage today →

- 1) Tradition - Certain communities traditionally marry their children at a younger age.
- 2) Girl child burden - This leads to parents getting their daughter married as soon as possible.
- 3) Lack of surveillance - Due to consensus of the people, it becomes

impossible to catch such cases.

4) Legal issues - The prohibition of Child Marriage Act has certain loopholes, such as consent of minor is permitted

5) ♣ Trafficking - Child trafficking leads to rise in cases of child marriage

Solutions to expedite social change for this →

1) Awareness campaigns, taking into consideration religion leaders against child marriage

2) Targetting the middlemen such as family members who might be instrumental in the conduct of marriage

3) Women empowerment through education, financial empowerment will lead of realisation of importance of girl child.

Role models can be highlighted for the same

Downy
Pinon
bubles

Regulative
education

4) Developing network of informers or providing awards to whistleblowers could generate fear against child marriage

Government initiatives in this regard

- Sukanya Samriddhi Yojana for financial empowerment
- Focus on improve improving gender parity index in education
Eg - Vigyan Jyoti scheme
- Development of SHGs for female entrepreneurship.

Child marriage subjects girls to a life, where they are unable to reach their potential of development.

India can only become a 5-trillion dollar economy by utilizing its female workforce as well.

15. Globalisation has changed the role of State. Critically evaluate its impact in the context of developing countries. (250 words, 15 marks)

Globalization refers to deteritorialization or a borderless world. The role of countries have changed massively in a globalized world.

Change in role of state due to globalization →

1) International interdependence has led to states losing their absolute autonomy. Eg - India cannot delink from China despite setback in relations

2) Growth of multilateral bodies like UN, WTO leads to more cohesive international activities. Eg - annual summits

3) Anarchy in the international stage leads to states forming regional blocs such as SCO, QUAD

more points
to be added

Impact of globalization in developing countries →

- 1) Economic shocks - Developing countries often bear the brunt of shocks such as Russia-Ukraine war, Fed tapering, etc.
- 2) Developing countries serve as huge markets for big firms, ~~and~~ but these countries rarely get a share of profits.
- 3) Climate adaptation and mitigation - Due to historical wrongs of developed countries, developing countries have to set aside funds for climate finance.
- 4) ~~This~~ Underrepresentation in international forums - There are no African or Latin American countries in the Permanent Council of the UNSC.

5) International competition - India sees cheap imports from China affecting its own domestic industries. However, WTO rulings are often in the favour of developed nations.

Way forward →

1) Greater representation of developing countries is needed. India can play a major role by becoming the Voice of the Global South.

2) Climate finance must be provided by developed nations as promised at COP16.

3) Common Minimum Tax must be adopted internationally to reduce Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS).

India can use its international influence in its G20 Presidency year to highlight these issues.

16. You are working in the electricity department of a State. You are assigned with electrifying all the villages of the State under Saubhagya scheme. Around 35 personnel work under your supervision. A seemingly honest subordinate has come to you and said that he has unearthed a major corruption done in a village by local authorities in collusion with elected panchayat members. Being an officer of integrity, you have asked him to submit a detailed report in two days. But the politicians and local authorities have approached your subordinate and encouraged him to help them in return for a share in the lump sum amount siphoned off by them. Being convinced, your subordinate comes to you after two days and claims that he has mistakenly believed there has been a corruption, but in reality he claims no such irregularity has occurred.

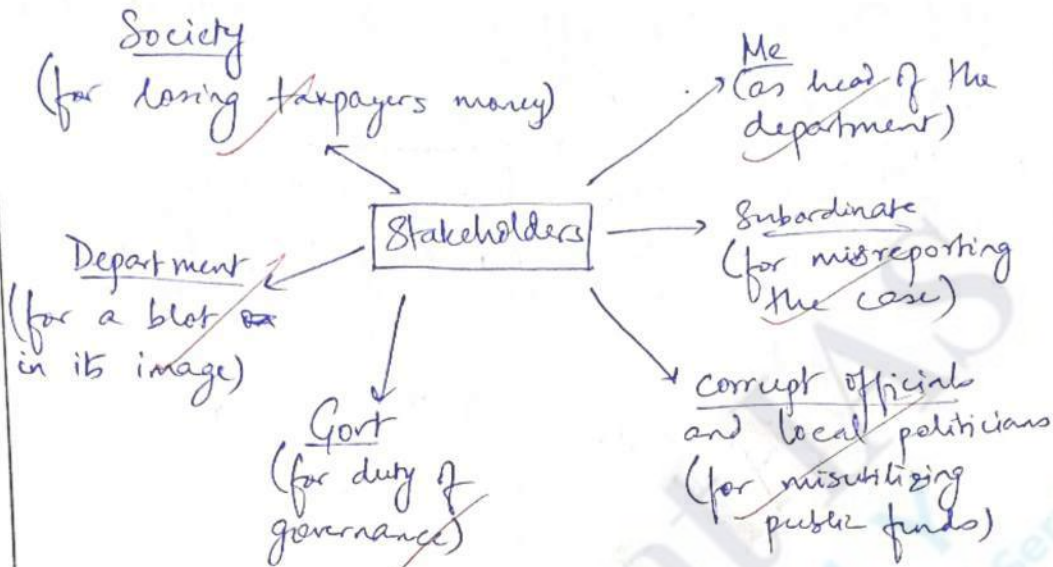
Answer the following:

(a) What are the ethical issues in this case?

(b) How will you respond to the changed opinion of your subordinate?

(250 words, 15 marks)

I am an officer in the electricity department of a state, leading a team of about 35 people. A subordinate reported an alleged corruption and was asked to submit a report on it. But on being approached and bribed by the miscreants, he has reneged on his earlier accusation.



Issues involved -

- 1) Duty and integrity v/s susceptibility to bribes
- 2) Honesty v/s dishonesty
- 3) Misuse of taxpayers money
- 4) Taking bribe and giving bribe
- 5) Influence of political class

Options available to respond -

[A] Let him go and ignore the incident

Merits

- 1) No undue extra work
- 2) No undue pressure

Demerits

- 1) Corruption continues and taxpayers money keeps leaking
- 2) Society is not served

[B] Charge the officer and investigate the issue

Merits

- 1) Duty of public service upheld,
- 2) Integrity is preserved for righteous action

Demerits

- 1) May lead to political pressure
- 2) Job security is at stake

I would go ahead with Option [B] as it allows me to do my foremost duty and abides with constitutional principles.

My response -

- 1) Set up task force of honest officers to investigate the incident
- 2) Suspend officers found colluding with the corrupt politicians
- 3) Frame a case against the people responsible with help from local police

4) Plug in loopholes and ensure adherence to SOPs (procedures) so

that such does not happen again

5) Display citizen charter and code of conduct to protect image of department.

The Saubhagya Scheme is on a vital goal to electrify the entire country. Proper checks and balances must be applied to minimize misuse of funds.

17. Urbanization has long been associated with human development and progress, but it has been observed that urban settings can also lead to significant inequalities and health problems. Discuss the statement. (250 words, 15 marks)

Urbanization refers to formation of urban settings through adoption of elements of urban life, such as access to certain benefits, better infrastructure, etc.

Link of urbanization with human development and progress.

1) Benefits lead to development since people can now focus better on their capacity building.

2) Access to schools, hospital, sanitation improves lifestyle and allows people to reach their potential.

3) Leisure time due to these benefits allows people for all-round development.

4) Technological progress is only possible in urban settings with relevant tools and facilities.

Issues with urban settings →

1) Slum development - Dharavi

Slum in Mumbai shows the extent of class division in urban areas

2) Social inequality - Even in urban areas, we see different sets of schools, colleges, hospitals, etc for diff.

classes of people

3) Sanitation and health are major issues for people living in slums.

Diseases like malaria, COVID-19 spread rapidly due to such close contact

4) Growth of blue collar workers has led to development of a class of people who are being exploited for economic

* air pollution
* such as
* poor health care
* health care costs
→ in cities
→ in cities
→ in cities

gains.

Initiatives by →

Way forward →

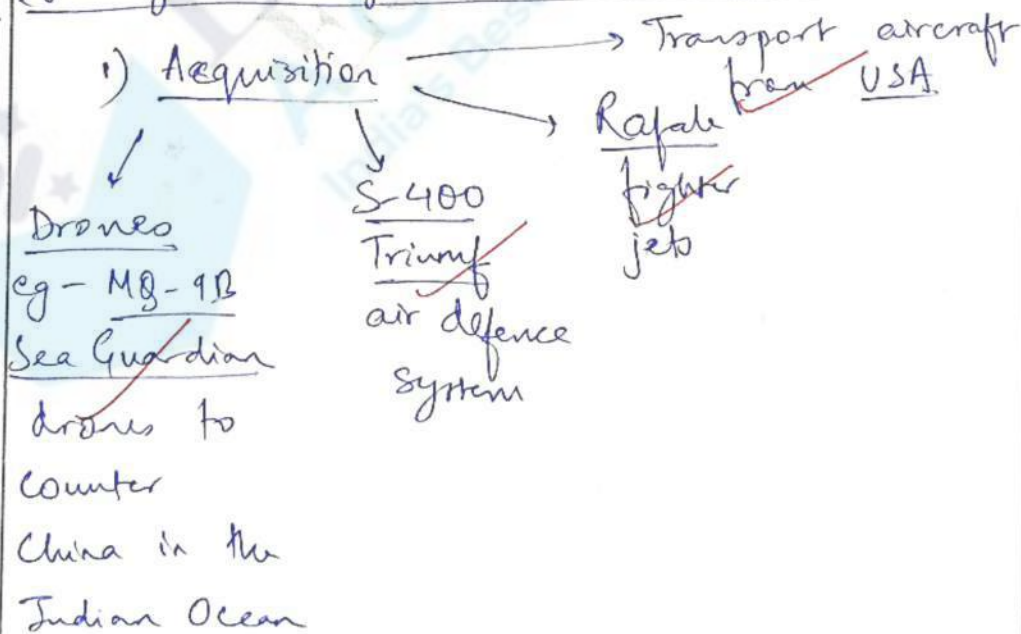
- 1) Development of affordable housing through initiatives like SWAMIH fund
- 2) National Urban Livelihood Mission, SVANIDHI scheme assist to empower people
- 3) Implementation of WASH (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) standards in slum areas.
- 4) Role of civil society organizations and NGOs to make lives better for the urban poor.

Cities run smoothly due to the role of the urban poor. Development of cities is impossible without the growth of this class

18. In the light of the recent remarks of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence, critically evaluate India's preparedness to counter China's growing military ambitions. (250 words, 15 marks)

India-china relations are at an all time low ^{due} to various border issues. The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Defence has recently highlighted the mismatch in our focus and ways to upgrade our defence

India's preparedness to counter China's growing military ambitions



2) Development

↓
Brahmos
nuclear
capable
missile

↓
Agni-5
ICBM
(inter-continental
ballistic missile)

→ INS
Vikrant

3) Deployment of forces along borders

↓
Indo-Tibetan
Border Police

4) Border villages development under vibrant village programme

5) Border infrastructure development with Border Roads Organization (BRO)

Way forward →

1) India needs to focus on indigenous capabilities and build more submarines and nuclear capable missiles

2) India needs to form more
& military and security agreements
such as ~~4~~ 4 foundational agreements
with USA

Conclusion?

19 India is known across world for its diversity. Discuss the reasons why India happens to be so diverse and whether India's diversity is serving India well? (250 words, 15 marks)

India is known for its
diversity.

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ACADEMY
India's Best Mentorship for Civil Services

20. Despite being a multilateral organization, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) faces significant challenges in achieving its goals. Analyze the key challenges faced by the SCO and suggest measures to enhance its effectiveness in promoting regional stability and economic cooperation. (250 words, 15 marks)