

Educrat IAS Academy
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GENERAL STUDIES

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INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS	
Q.No.	Max. Marks	Marks Obtained		
1			1. Please do furnish Name, Email, Roll No. and Mobile in the answer sheet.	
2			2. There are TWENTY questions printed in ENGLISH, all questions are compulsory.	
3			3. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.	
4			4. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.	
5			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.	
6			<i>Any specific messages for Educrat IAS Mentors/Evaluators with respect to your copy? Write here.</i>	
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16			Start Time:	End Time:
17			Mode of Examination:	Online <input type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/>
18			ECN CODE:	Evaluation Date:
19			Total Marks:	
20			Remarks:	

SECTION A

1) As a future civil servant, what are the instances where there can be a conflict of interest? How would you plan to resolve a possible conflict of interest?

A conflict of interest is a situation where my position or connections might provide me an undue advantage. Eg - As a civil servant, I might be responsible for a govt tender bidding, where my relative is one of the bidders. This gives me the motivation to influence the tendering bidding process.

Measures to resolve the conflict

- 1) Recusal - Any conflict can be redressed by honest recusal. I can ask for my removal from the govt bidding.
- 2) Oversight could be maintained

Page _____ of _____

with the help of a team, which ensures honest action and no conflict of interest

3) Transparency in govt function reduces the scope of conflict of interest.

4) Ethical behavior - In case the above options are unavailable, it is upto myself to ensure ethical action.

through → maintaining objective approach
 → measurable parameters in decision-making
 ↓
 public welfare and citizen-centricity.
 → Self-checks to ensure non-partisanship ✓

In case of any doubts, I should refer to Gandhi's talisman to see which action benefits the most poor and needy of people.

Page _____ of _____

2) With bad laws and good civil servants, it's still possible to govern. But with bad civil servants, even the best possible laws can't help. Do you agree? Why? Explain your views.

Civil servants govern the society within limitations of their guidelines, ethics and laws.

How good civil servants can govern with bad laws

1) Ethical principles — Eg — AFSPA is widely considered as a bad law. Good civil servants ensure their use only in urgent situations.

2) Citizen-centricity in civil servant can guide them to ensure that whatever be the law most benefit reaches the public within legal limits.

3) Ideal civil servants utilize their EQ to empathize with the public and make up for loopholes in the law by

providing
feedback

requesting
administrative
action

Page _____ of _____

However, bad civil servants see a different scenario —

1) Inefficient, lack of effectiveness and economy (3Es) — which might lead to leakage of public funds at cost of welfare

2) Bad civil servants fail to understand plight of people even with best laws

3) They are not guided by ethical principles and might engage in corruption, partisanship and hurt the welfare agenda.

Sardar Patel called bureaucracy as the steel steelframe of India. The bureaucracy should not be limited by bad laws, but must aim to benefit as many people as possible. That said, the best case is best civil servants and good laws.

Page _____ of _____

3) The need of the hour is some innovative and practical ideas to solve the problems our country faces. List out five major problems India currently face. Give you innovative ideas to solve any major problem.

India is a new democracy and faces a multitude of problems. These problems must be recognized and solved as we step ahead in the future

Five major problems India faces

- 1) Poverty
- 2) Unemployment
- 3) Gender inequality
- 4) Corruption
- 5) Communalism

Innovative ideas to solve gender inequality

- 1) Gender studies should be incorporated in the curriculum to constantly highlight that both genders are equally capable
- 2) Gender equality should be made part of mainstream media. We should not just relate women to beauty and men to working husbands
- 3) Safety of women must be focused

through proper surveillance. Men must be sensitized about what is ethical and what is not.

~~4) Basic defence should be.~~

4) Education as a fundamental right must be made mandatory. Women should be encouraged to become equal participants in higher education

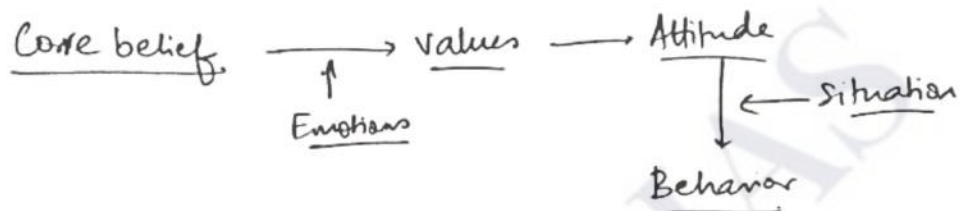
5) Women representation. Laws, unless made by women, and for ~~men~~ women will remain incomplete.

PM Modi had highlighted the importance of women empowerment in our Amrit Kaal. We should aim to make India a Nari Shakti Bharat.

Page _____ of _____

4) 'Even though we may assume that behaviour is rooted in attitude, they are attitudes and actual behaviour are not always perfectly aligned'. Explain the cases where you noticed of divergence in behaviour from attitude with examples

In Ideal scenario, the following trend is seen -



However, this is not always the case.

Cases of divergence in behavior and attitude

1) Public morality - [Eg] - An atheist men engages in worship during family prayer

2) Peer pressure - [Eg] - A moral person may be involved in unscrupulous activities due to pressure from friends

3) Legal reason - [Eg] - Individuals refrain from an attitude of dowry due to Prohibition of Dowry Act, 1961

Page ___ of ___

4) Incapability - Eg - A philanthropic person may not have the means to engage in social welfare.

Inspite of the cases of divergences, the action, ^{and beliefs} of individuals define who they are. Gandhi had said, 'we are the product of our thoughts'. People should thus, aim to maintain ethical thoughts, and strive to maintain ethical attitude and behavior.

Page _____ of _____

5) A) 'Egoism is the very essence of a noble soul' - Friedrich Nietzsche. Do you agree with this view? Explain

Egoism can be understood as the extreme faith in one's own self and activities, while extreme negligence of the views of others.

Eg - ~~Hitler~~ Napoleon had a very egotistic attitude and considered what he said as law.

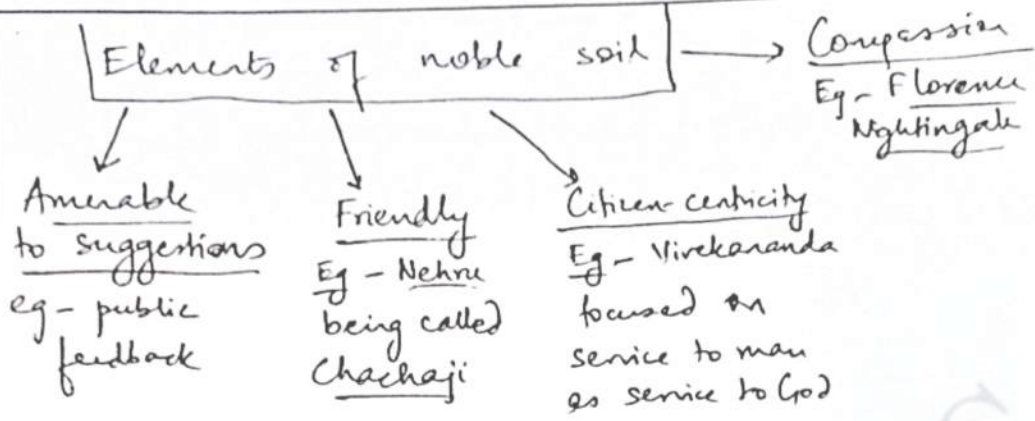
Can egoism be the essence of a noble soul?

1) Egoist person is not amenable to suggestions. Eg - this led to development of 'divine right of king' theory

2) Self-centred and narcissist - An egoist person values himself as supreme. Eg - dictators like Hitler, who gave Aryan Race theory.

3) No element of public welfare - An egoist person does not put primary focus on public welfare, rather on self's ideas

Page _____ of _____



An egoist soul can not be considered noble. Civil servants are sensitized to not let their egos deter them in their line of duty.



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Page _____ of _____

6) What does this quote mean to you? (150 words)

a) "Without facts you cannot have the truth, without truth you cannot have trust and without any of these things you cannot have a functioning democracy" - Maria Ressa.

A functioning democracy as described by Lincoln is 'of the people, for the people, with the people'.

Since people are the most important part of democracy, it needs people participation and transparency.

Elements of functioning democracy

1) Facts - Eg - role of media as 4th organ of democracy to highlight facts to the people.

People should know about the govt, if they are to play a part in it

2) Truth - People to be empowered to find the truth from the facts.

Eg - the govt's role in spread of fake news through PIB fact check.

Page _____ of _____

3) Trust - A democracy functions only when there is trust between people, between people and their representatives and among representatives.

Eg - parliamentary debates and discussions are vital to generate trust

India is one of the youngest democracies, and the organs of democracy should continuously strive to ensure truth, facts and trust for the continuance of democracy in India.

Page _____ of _____

6) b) Do you think population can be controlled by bringing in a population control law? Analyze from an ethical standpoint

One reason for rapid increase in pollution is often attributed to increase in population. The rapid increase in emissions has coincided ^{with} ~~by~~ the exponential population growth.

Issues with population control law has been often discussed as a means to control population. China is one of the few countries to pass a population control law, with mixed effects.

Issues with population control law

1) Micromanagement by state in personal matters. State should do its task of governing in the public sphere, and not in private sphere, unless extremely necessary.

2) Means and ends - By initiating population control, we are punishing the current generation

Page _____ of _____

for actions of the previous generation

3) Slippery slope as state may then pass other laws, which are more restrictive

4) Fails to acknowledge the reason of people - India's TFR (Total Fertility Rate) has itself reduced without such laws

5) People who have more children often have a necessity, which the state fails to address by such laws

The govt should instead address the hidden reasons of population growth, i.e., economic distress, education and unemployment to ensure population stability. ✓

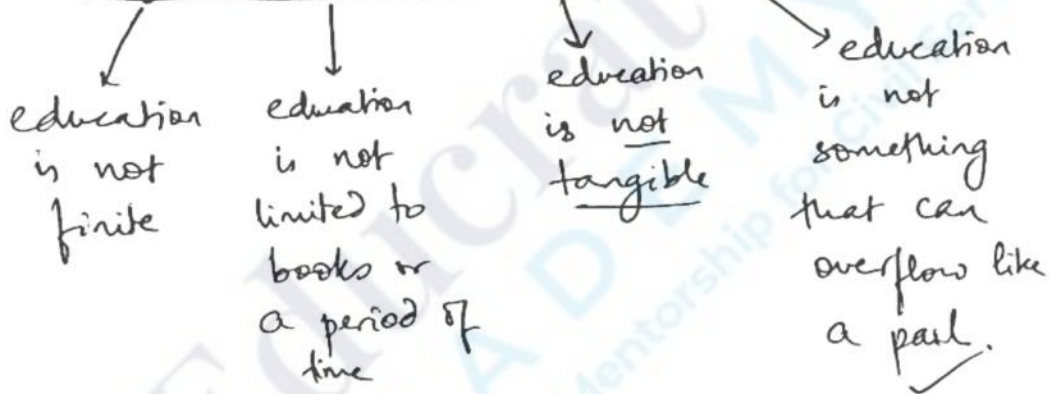
Page _____ of _____

6) What does this quote mean to you? (150 words)
B) "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire" - William Butler Yates

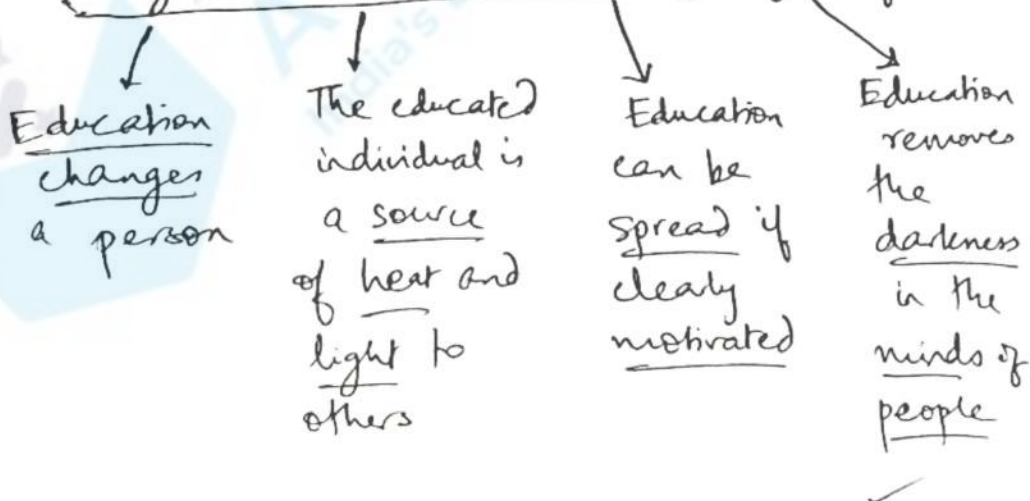
Education is a vital part of the fulfillment of any individual.

Yates compares education as a lighting of a fire, not filling of a pail

Why is education not filling a pail?



Why education is like lighting a fire



This is why Gandhi stressed on the importance of education.

He said, 'we should learn from the book of life and not of life from books'.

India should focus on improving its educational standards to maintain moral principles in society and spread the light of knowledge ✓

Page _____ of _____

7) a) Restoring trust and integrity in public institutions and officials is key to safeguarding democracy and promote better governance. Discuss.

Public institutions and officials are vital for governance. But this governance is only possible with the assistance of the public, which is only generated through trust and integrity ✓

Role of trust and integrity in democracy and governance

- 1) Participative democracy - People are willing participants only if they know and trust that they will be the ultimate beneficiaries. Eg - MGNREGA.
- 2) Mistrust breeds revolution - When people mistrust the govt, they revolt. Eg - Marxist idea of revolution
- 3) Role of integrity - When people realize that the ruling govt has public welfare in

Page _____ of _____

their minds and actions, they are more amenable to govt schemes and campaigns. Eg - Swachh Bharat

Abhiyan saw massive public participation

Thus, the bureaucracy should strive to restore and maintain trust in the public institutions through initiatives like citizens charters, ethical code of conduct, grievance redressal, transparency.

Page _____ of _____

7) b) 'Majoritarian views and popular morality cannot dictate constitutional rights'. Discuss

JS Mill had said that 'just like the tyranny of one ~~of~~ over all is unfair, the tyranny of all over one is unfair' ✓

Issues with majoritarian views and popular morality

1) Not always right. Eg - there was a time when transgender rights were not supported. Today, transgenders have legal rights

2) Unethical as it does not listen to the outlier. Eg - in Germany during Hitler, majoritarianism led to authoritarianism

3) Utilitarian principles of greater good go against the principles of human dignity

4) Such a constitution is not unbiased

Page _____ of _____

Eg - if majoritarianism defined Constitutional rights, there would be no women suffrage rights in developed countries.

Bureaucrats should be sensitized to follow ^{respect} the advises and requests of each individual. Every human individual is a unit in itself.

Page _____ of _____

8) A) How will you apply emotional intelligence while framing policies?

Emotional intelligence is most required by civil servants in their daily tasks. It can be understood as the understanding of emotions of individuals while interacting with them.

Application of EI in policy making

- 1) Public welfare — ensuring benefits to each and every individual
- 2) Gandhi's talisman to ensure benefit to the most poor and needy is only possible if we are able to empathise with them
- 3) Policy making requires understanding ground reality by talking to people and understanding their concerns

Thus a civil servant is sensitized to develop EI to understand the people

Page _____ of _____

he is serving.



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Page _____ of _____

8) b) What are the ways to deal with cognitive dissonance?

Cognitive dissonance is understood as disharmony in understanding among people. While working for public welfare, bureaucrats often find sections of population ~~to~~ who have widely different thoughts and ideas. ❏

Page _____ of _____



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Page _____ of _____

SECTION B

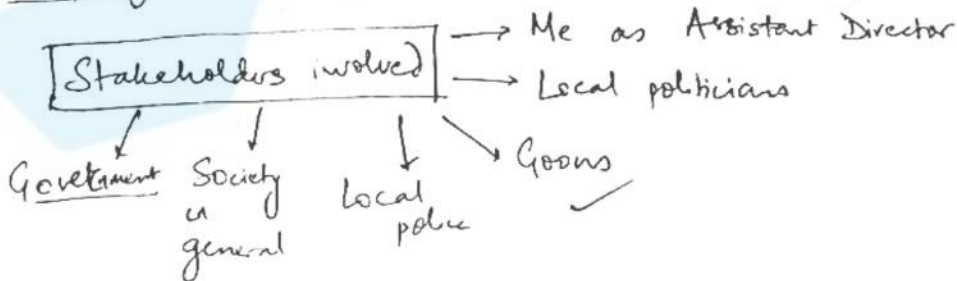
1) You are transferred to Food and Civil Supplies department of Mirzapur as the Assistant Director. Before you report, you make a call to a college friend of yours who is a local news reporter to enquire about the affairs of the district. He tells you that, corruption is rampant across the administration including the Food and Civil Supplies Department. Not only that, those officers who do not fall in line are coerced to give in by force by local politicians and their goons.

As you report, you see that many of trucks carrying grains to be distributed as PDS are being diverted to the black market for rebranding and selling at higher prices. You immediately swing in to action and stop the trucks for inspection and you ascertain that indeed they were being diverted for the black market. You ask the local station to book a case but the SHO refuses citing political pressure. But irrespective of that you do not allow the trucks to move and seize them for the time being.

Next day you are visited by Mr Munna Tripathi, who is the son of the local MLA. He offers you a hefty bribe which you out rightly refuse. Upon refusing he threatens you with dire consequences if the trucks are not allowed to leave within the next 24 hours.

What are the options in front of you? Analyze the pros and cons of the each. Which option will you choose? (20)

I am the Assistant Director of the Food and Civil Supplies Department of Mirzapur. I am assigned to a district where there is rampant black marketing in grains distribution due to a nexus between administration and politicians and goons. My efforts at stopping it has led to threats on my life.



Page _____ of _____

Ethical issues involved —

- 1) Integrity v/s fear of life and job
- 2) Public welfare v/s political pressure
- 3) Fight against a corrupt system
- 4) Black marketing as a threat to food security
- 5) Unresponsive police force and gunda-raj
- 6) Non-partisanship in public work
- 7) Coercion and threats on public servants

Options available —

Option 1 — Allow the passage of trucks —

Merits

- 1) No threat on life, job security is maintained
- 2) Might lead to pecuniary benefits

④

Demerits

- 1) Integrity is lost, I become morally corrupt
- 2) Corruption is slippery slope, and will lead to more favours
- 3) Risk is on me and if caught, there is scope of job loss and imprisonment

Option 2 — Do not allow passage of trucks

Merits

- 1) Integrity is maintained
- 2) Food security among public is maintained
- 2) Citizen-centricity is achieved

Demerits ✓

- 1) Threat to life
- 2) Difficult to fight nexus alone
- 3) Might lead to transfer, which does not solve issue

Page _____ of _____

Option I would choose -

- 1) I would not let the trucks to pass.
- 2) First, I would ask the local police, and if not possible, the DM, assistance to register a case against the black marketing and against ~~the~~ Mr Munna Tripathi for threatening a civil servant ✓
- 3) I would seek assistance from the DM for police protection of me and my family
- 4) I would try to involve the local people, who are ultimately affected, by asking them to procure food grains only from Fair Price shops
- 5) I would develop a report on all instances of black marketing in my district and all stakeholders involved.
- 6) A network of informants can help identify godowns, which the police can raid.
- 7) I would use the help of media to ensure that the perpetrators are caught and justice is served. ✓

This is a very relevant situation and such nexus is often found in India. Proper end-to-end digitization is required using technology like blockchain to ensure no leakage in PDS

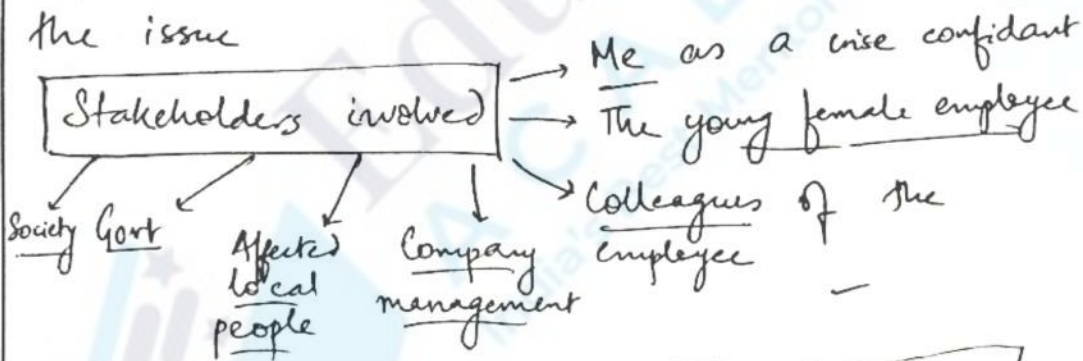
Page _____ of _____

2) A fresh engineering graduate gets a job in a prestigious chemical industry. She likes the work. The salary is also good. However, after a few months she accidentally discovers that a highly toxic waste is being secretly discharged into a river nearby. This is causing health problems to the villagers downstream who depend on the river for their water needs. She is perturbed and mentions her concern to her colleagues who have been with the company for longer periods. They advise her to keep quiet as anyone who mentions the topic is summarily dismissed. She cannot risk losing her job as she is the sole bread-winner for her family and has to support her ailing parents and siblings. At first, she thinks that if her seniors are keeping quiet, why should she stick out her neck. But her conscience pricks her to do something to save the river and the people who depend upon it. At heart she feels that the advice of silence given by her friends is not correct though she cannot give reasons for it. She thinks you are a wise person and seeks your advice.

(a) What arguments can you advance to show her that keeping quiet is not morally right?

(b) What course of action would you advise her to adopt and why? (20)

I have been asked to advise a young female employee in a chemical industry, which is secretly polluting a local river, which is causing health issues in the local population. The employee is worried about repercussions on her career if she highlights the issue



(a) Arguments advanced to her to show keeping quiet is immoral

i) The company is assuming the local people as a means to its ends, by putting a

Page _____ of _____

price tag of profitability on human lives.

2) The young woman should empathize with the villagers, who are getting affected for no fault of their own.

3) If the woman keeps quiet despite knowing the issue, she is as responsible as the company for the plight of the villagers.

4) It would be inhuman for letting other people suffer for your actions, and goes against ethical principles.

5) The young woman should not let the tyranny of the majority stop her from doing what is right.

(b) Course of action I would suggest →

1) The young female employee should instead convince her colleagues to support her when she raises the issue. The management cannot force everyone.

2) She should raise awareness of this issue among all employees of the firm, among the affected village population so that they demand change.

Page — of —

3) The employee can contact non-executive directors or grievance redressal officers in the firm to raise the issue

4) She can use social media to highlight the issue, if there is no action from upper management.

5) She can lodge a formal complaint at the local police station, or the ~~local~~ Consumer Protection Forum, or ~~the~~ a local NGO to raise it to the National Green Tribunal (NGT)

6) She needs to ensure that quick redressal is undertaken by the company to stop ~~more~~ further water pollution. If she has the technical capability, she should recommend plans for correct waste disposal at the industry.

★ Our rivers are the lifeline of the country. The CWC (Central Water Commission) and CPCB (Central Pollution Control Board) should ensure stringent penalties and action against habitual polluters.

Page _____ of _____

3) You are the Excise Commissioner of state with a high rate of narcotic abuse and you under take a potentially sweeping drug investigation with inter-State and international ramifications. You appoint a well-equipped special squad for the same.

The drug case has its provenance in intelligence generated jointly by the State Excise Enforcement Squad (SEES) and the Customs department. The Customs had intercepted at least two air cargo parcels containing a significant amount of a banned narcotic. The importers had used fake invoices and the services of a cargo agent to ship in the drug from Spain surreptitiously.

The SEES learnt a well-heeled and influential youth with association with the ruling party was the kingpin of the racket. The SEES intercepted a seven-member group, associated with the kingpin, travelling in a van acting on a tip-off. The squad seized small quantity of banned narcotics and a deer antler from the vehicle.

Based on information obtained from the gang, that the kingpin has stashed at least 2 kg of the banned drug in an apartment, you immediately dispatch a part of the special squad headed by an Additional Excise Commissioner.

However, for unknown reasons, the squad allowed the prime accused in the case to walk free and not much of the banned drug was seized from the apartment. It also did not account for the seizure of the deer antler. Moreover, the squad registered the existing case in a manner alleged to be advantageous to the accused. Some officers refused in the squad to endorse the report and registered their opposition in writing as the report was prepared nefariously.

The issue became a scandal after surveillance camera images of the accused moving the banned drugs out of the apartment during the raid went viral. The "embarrassment" prompted Excise Minister to order the internal inquiry headed by you. The opposition and media are relentless in its criticism of how this case was handled.

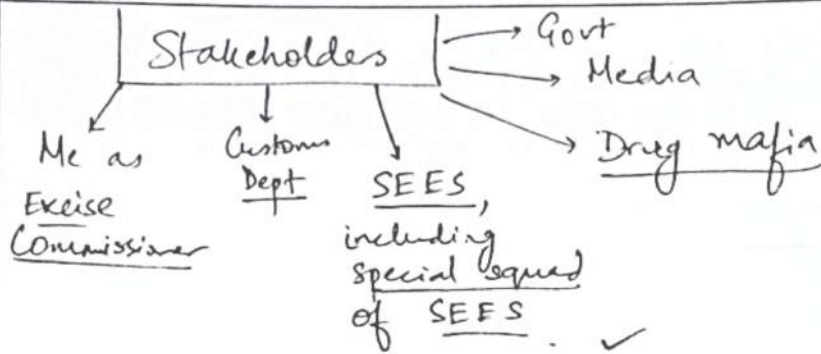
As the excise commissioner, to what extent are you responsible for the failure of the operation?

What are the reasons for the such lapses occurring on part of drug enforcement officials?

What course of action will you take to remedy this botch up? (20)

I am the excise Commissioner of a state with high narcotic abuse and a drug investigation case, eventually turned rogue, and failed to nab the kingpin. Surveillance evidence has highlighted negligence on our part and an internal inquiry is ordered.

Page _____ of _____



(a) As an excise Commissioner, it is my responsibility to ensure correctness in the raids and so that the right person gets arrested. Any failure of my team is accountable as my failure and oversight.

(b) My errors and reasons for lapses —

1) Incorrect setting of responsible team squad leading to corruption and nexus with drug mafia

2) Lack of due diligence in preparing the report led to submission of incomplete report

3) Internal disharmony within the squad should have been investigated before submitting the report.

4) Lack of oversight in raid allowed the kingpin to escape ✓

Page _____ of _____

5) Lack of accountability and sentiment highlighted by the fact that there was no redressal attempts before media glare

6) Lack of clarity in report highlight the low professionalism of the squad

(c) My course of action -

- 1) Talk to all relevant stakeholders to identify the loopholes in the mission
- 2) Identify the nexus with the drug mafia. The Assistant Excise Commissioner should be held accountable for the lapses in the raid
- 3) Find other surveillance images, if possible, to develop clear overview of the raid
- 4) Develop a report to submit to the Minister, along with a separate report, as a revision to the previously submitted report
- 5) Concede my accountability as Excise Commissioner and be ready for any penalty or action.

Page — of —

Long-term action -

- 1) Develop mission guidelines during raids for proper accounting of all seized items in future
- 2) Proper vetting of recruited team members along with regular integrity checks
- 3) Scrutiny of mission reports before submission and highlight instances of lack of oversight, if any ✓
- 4) Strict penalty and punishment in cases of fraud/nexus found
- 5) Develop network of informants within the team to ensure fool-proof action

Corruption is the biggest challenge to public servants today. India is one of the biggest drug trade markets with 4th highest quantity of ^{opium} ~~heroin~~ and 3rd largest quantity of morphine seized in 2020. Ethical coordination and prompt action is required to tackle it.

4) You are appointed as the head of an old department. You being an energetic and young officer wish to bring a lot of positive changes in the department, however, the response you got from your colleagues was lacklustre.

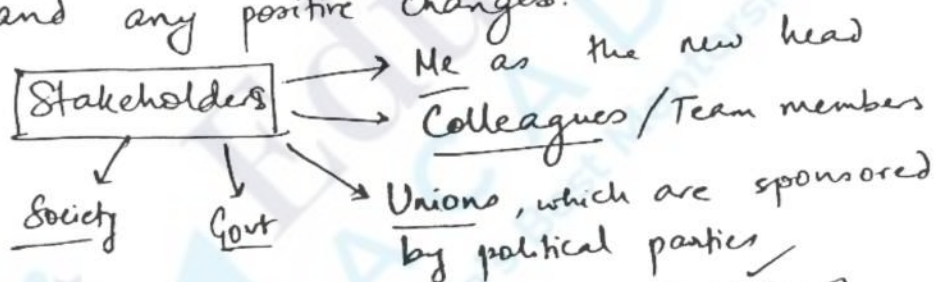
The staff under you is just interested in routine work. Many of them had indirectly hinted that you cannot change the system. Many of the staff are also members of unions sponsored by political parties, and they resist any change.

Upon interacting with the staff for some days, you understood that they have an attitude problem.

How can you change the attitude of your colleagues, a majority of them being above fifty years of age?

What measures would you suggest to implement your innovative ideas in your department? Give merits and demerits of your suggestions. (20)

I am the head of an old department constituted of mostly 750 years old employees, and who are resistant to changing their mode of work and any positive changes.



(Q) To change Ethical issues involved

- (a) Lethargy to change or inertia
- (b) Integrity vs political pressure/coercion
- (c) Citizen-centricity
- (d) Routine underachievement
- (e) Difference between being and doing
- (f) Misuse of public office.

Page — of —

Options are available -

Option 1 - Ignore the issue

Merits

- 1) No job stress and job security is maintained

Demerits

- 1) Moral dilemma as public welfare not achieved
- 2) Integrity is lost
- 3) Lack of promotion and recognition and career advancement

Option 2 - Take steps to change the scenario

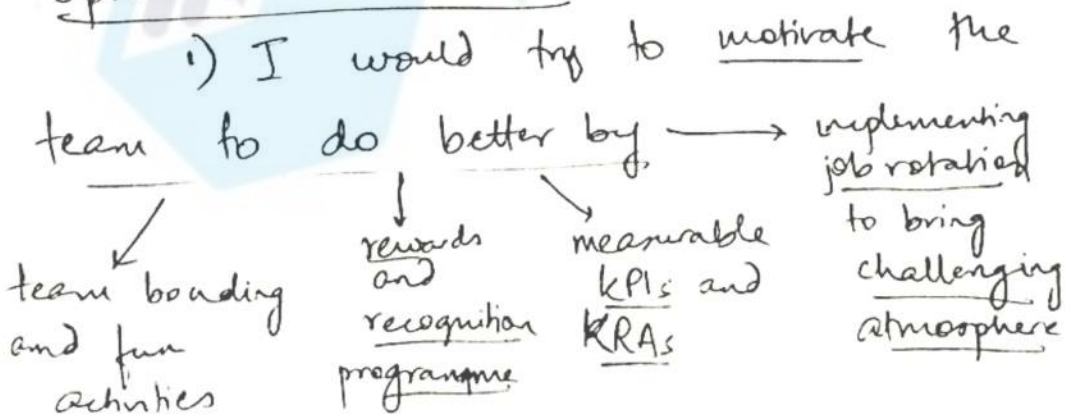
Merits

- 1) Integrity preserved
- 2) Citizen welfare is achieved
- 3) Team is improved and productivity of dept increases

Demerits

- 1) Scope of union pressure and job transfer

Option I would take →



Page _____ of _____

2) Implement open door policy at work to improve interaction with team.

3) Assign work in groups to allow the team have fun working together.

I need to make the team realize that work should not have to be routine and mundane

4) Celebrate national holidays, events like Yoga Day at office to ensure people are connected to main goal of public welfare

5) Develop code of conduct and citizens charter to ensure that ^{citizens} people have their expectations met

6) The experience of older employees must be respected. I would try to teach as well as learn from them as much as possible.

India has a major complaint of unproductive govt offices. In its Amrit Kaal, India must endeavour to change this image and become a more responsive bureaucracy

Page — of —

5) You are the manager of an emerging company A. You want to secure a deal with a bigger company B. Securing this deal will help you get a good name and will boost your career growth.

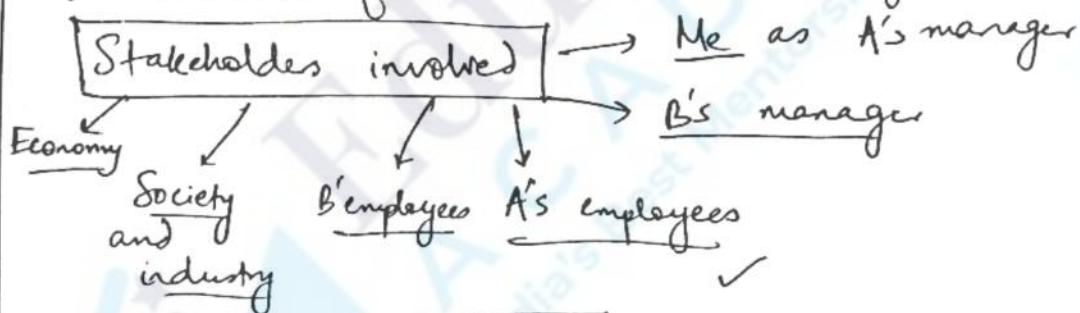
However, the Manager of the bigger company B is asking you to arrange him some favours to give you this deal. Many of the favours he asked are not illegal but are immoral in the society in which you live.

You know the importance of this deal for you and your company. If you fail to grab the deal, there are many other companies around who will arrange the favours for company B, and thus secure the deal.

As a law-abiding citizen with ethical viewpoints, what are the dilemmas you face? What will be your response to the situation?

I am the manager of emerging Company A, aiming to secure a deal with Company B, ~~if~~ which is possible only if

I am willing to arrange some legal, yet immoral favours to B's manager



Ethical issues involved →

- 1) Moral behavior vs profit motive
- 2) Integrity vs welfare of my team
- 3) Extent to which I am willing to neglect ethics
- 4) unscrupulous favours by B's manager

Page _____ of _____

5) using me as a means to an end

6) favours are slippery slope, ~~is~~ might lead to illegal favours in future

7) scope of reputation loss v/s scope of pecuniary loss.

My response →

1) I would be firm in my refusal to B's offer and approach B's directors for help

2) I would try and make my competitors aware of the loopholes in taking B's deal

3) I would try and approach any of B's competition and to secure a similar deal with no caveats involved

4) I would lodge a complaint at the Competition Commission of India against B's tactics

5) I would try to use the help of

Page _____ of _____

industry lobby groups like FICCI,
Assocham, etc. for a

6) I would ensure my employees
that we can grow without engaging
in such immoral activities ✓

7) Non-executive directors of B's
Company can be approached for redressal
as well.

Corporate governance in India is
often opaque and efforts must be taken
to ensure transparency in such deals.

SEBI's Business Responsibility and Sustainability
Report (BRSR) is instrumental to adhere to
tenets of ESG by firms.

Page _____ of _____

6) You are posted as SP of a district after clearing civil services in your first attempt at the young age of 23. The posted district has incidentally seen many cases of dowry related deaths and violence in the recent past. There are also allegations that police do not register complaints and that they try to arrive at a 'compromise' between the victims and the oppressors.

One evening, a female complainant meets you in the office. You recognise her as your childhood classmate in high school. She was one of the brightest students and your competitor in studies who topped the school in 10th grade. But post school you both lost contact. She narrates that unfortunately, she was married immediately she turned 18 and her parents did not allow her to study much. Though, she was very much interested in getting a degree and pursuing civil services was her ambition too.

Post her wedding, she got busy with household work and taking care of her husband and in-laws. Though, her in-laws were conservative from the start but they did not demand any dowry either during marriage or after it. Juggling her responsibility, she managed to obtain a bachelors degree from IGNOU. During the pandemic induced lockdown, her husband's business suffered immensely brought them on the verge of bankruptcy. This led the beginning of indirect and symbolic demands of dowry from her husband.

These demands got more aggressive and direct as time passed by. When she informed her parents they managed to send some money to 'ease his suffering' but that was not enough. This also led to a few incidents of domestic violence due to the frustration of the husband. When informed to her in laws, they told "it's a common norm and every woman has to go through this". Same was the opinion of her parents and told her to just let it go.

She confides in you that she is very much distressed and disturbed because of this and has no support whatsoever from family.

Why is dowry so deeply entrenched in the Indian society?

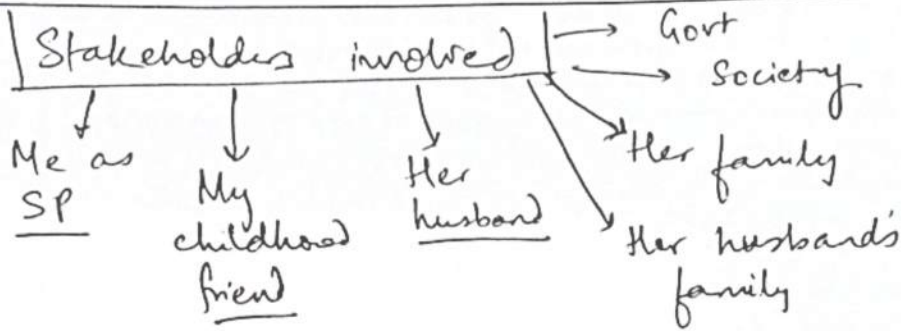
Suggest steps to tackle domestic violence in India.

As the superintendent of police what action will you be taking?

What will be your advice to your friend?

I am the SP of a district with rampant cases of dowry deaths and domestic violence. My childhood friend is facing a similar issue, where she is asked to let go of it and silently suffer the issue, as it was 'normal'.

Page _____ of _____



(a) Reasons for dowry being so deeply entrenched in India →

1) Patriarchy in society — Historical patriarchy in society considers women as inferior, legitimizing dowry

2) Customs and traditions — Dowry is a part of ancient Hindu culture and even mentioned in our scriptures

3) Considered as women's financial contribution to running the household

4) Normalization of dowry has led to dowry being considered acceptable in even the well-to-do families

5) Attempts at stopping dowry has met much resistance. Today, dowry is rampant under the guise of wedding gifts

Page _____ of _____

(b) Steps to tackle domestic violence in India →

1) Education of women and awareness of families to stop putting a price tag on women

2) NGOs must support women in case of dowry related violence. Eg - SHGs can play prominent role.

3) Strict implementation of Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961

4) Network of informants of police officers to catch dowry exchange red-handed

5) Generate awareness through religious leaders of the benefits of redirecting dowry money to public welfare instead ✓

(c) My action as SP →

1) I would sensitize local women to Speak out against dowry. Set up anonymous complaint box to get leads

2) Confiscation of dowry material and imprisonment according to Dowry Prohibition Act

Page _____ of _____

3) Punish instances of domestic violence through Domestic Violence Act, 2005

4) Organize nukkad, natak on the issue of ~~dowry~~ dowry deaths. Run 'Nari Seshakt' Campaign highlighting how women are not inferior to men

5) Highlight cases where ^{women} ~~women~~ have excelled from my district or others.
Eg - Chhavi Rajawat of Rajasthan.

c) Encourage women education and women rights.

d) Advice to my friend →

1) Lodge criminal complaint against her husband under Domestic violence Act and Dowry Act

2) As a bachelors student from ICNOU, she has good employability. I would connect her to some SHG or govt scheme like Anganwadi Services Scheme.

3) Encourage my friend to assist her family not through dowry, but through a regular source of income

Page _____ of _____

India's Amrit Kaal should be an age of empowerment of women and bringing them on the forefront of change. For that, change must first begin at home and around us. ✓

Page _____ of _____

Pending

