



ENLITE IAS
Enlightening minds. Lightening journeys

MAINS TEST SERIES 2025

ETHICS II

Question Paper Specific Instructions

1. There are **NINETEEN** Questions printed in **ENGLISH**.
2. All the questions are **compulsory**.
3. The number of marks carried by each question (or part) is indicated against it.
4. Word limit in questions wherever specified should be adhered to.
5. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Answer booklet must be clearly struck off.

Qn No.	Marks Obtained	Qn No.	Marks Obtained
1	3 4 1/2	11	4 1/2
2	4 3	12	4
3	4 3	13	4
4	5 1/2	14	4 1/2
5	3 5	15	10 1/2
6	4 5	16	10 1/2
7	4 4	17	10 1/2
8	4 4	18	11
9	4 4 1/2	19	10
10			
TOTAL			

Name

KIRTAN BHATTI

Roll no

Subject

ETHICS - II

Date

07/07/25

Questions Attempted

19



1. "It is not reason that motivates us to act morally, but a felt sense of right and wrong." In light of this idea, critically examine whether ethical decision-making is primarily driven by moral sentiment rather than rational principles. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

"The line separating good & evil passes not through reason or books of law, but right through human heart"
- Alexander Solzhenitsin

The quote highlights the role of inner moral compass in ethical decision making.

Not reason that motivates us to act morally.

① Humans are emotive animals → emotional intelligence required to solve interpersonal problems

(e.g.) Gandhiji's appeal to emotion during Noakhali riots.

② Conflict resolution is driven by moral sentiments and a sense of "felt justice".

③ Reason cannot answer why one should act

Ensure that you explicitly link the demand of Qn with content in every given Qn.



morally when not in one's interests $\Rightarrow$ can lead to ethical egoism.

④ Hegemony over reason by a select few can lead to neglect of the majority.

However, rational principles must also prevail

⑤ Too much focus on sentiments leads to ethical relativism and moral anarchy.

⑥ Kant's categorical imperatives state that moral laws must be universal.

(e.g.) ethical decisions in a globalized world require universal standards.

⑦ Primacy to moral sentiments can lead to "Might is Right" or "Matyra Nyaya".

Thus, a balanced approach of rational mind + emotional mind = wise mind

is the way ahead.

(Don't write anything in this area)

2. In a world of limited resources, no nation can uphold humanism abroad by alienating its own people at home. Refugee rehabilitation, climate reparations, and foreign aid often place states in ethical dilemmas between global obligations and domestic justice. In this context, critically examine the relevance of international ethics in guiding such decisions. Support your answer with suitable examples. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Traditional Indic wisdom says that World is One Family and all lives are connected. But rise of nation states poses the ethical dilemma of humanism v. nationalism.

Relevance of International ethics

(I) Refugee rehabilitation

↳ Principle of refoulment states that no nation should refuse accepting refugees

(e.g.) Germany's acceptance of over 1.5 million Syrian refugees.

↳ Justice for the weak is a cardinal virtue as per Plato & Aristotle.

(II) Climate reparations

- ↳ Christian doctrine of stewardship of nature
⇒ humanity is responsible for conserving nature
- ↳ Historical moral responsibility of western industrialized nations which have caused the most environmental damage.
- (e.g.) USA alone responsible for over 50% of GHG emissions.

III Foreign aid

- ↳ "Threat to justice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere".
- Martin Luther King Jr.

Challenges

- ① Ethical self-centrism of powerful nations, (e.g.) US withdrawal from Paris Agreement
- ② Primacy to consequentialism
⇒ ends over means.
- ③ Nationalist Jingoism for electoral benefit.
(e.g.) US stopping aid to African nations.

(Don't write anything in this area)

This part can be better given as the need to uphold domestic justice

3. While empathy is often praised as a moral virtue, in public service it can sometimes give rise to a conflict of interest. Explain the concept of conflict of interest and analyze how personal empathy or emotional proximity may compromise institutional objectivity. How can public servants strike a balance between empathy and ethical impartiality? (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

As per 2nd ARC, conflict of interest refers to cases of conflicting loyalties, e.g. duty vs. personal gain.

(e.g.) Public servant having stakes in government contract

How personal empathy may compromise objectivity

(1) loyalty towards family or friends can lead to cases of favouritism.

(e.g.) Allegations of nepotism on BCCI President.

(2) Primacy to emotions over procedures can compromise values of prudence & probity.

(3) Too much empathy can lead to a blind eye towards ethical misconduct.

Mentally about Empathy also
In the intro

Give examples



(Don't
write
anything
in this
area)

- ④ It can lead to moral relativism as one responds to situations based on emotions.
- ⑤ It can create a feeling of injustice amongst staff members and set a precedent of partiality.
- (e.g.) Always giving a pass to a close colleague.

How to strike a balance

- ① Kantian deontology ⇒ primacy to duty.
- ② Code of conduct ⇒ strict enforcement & review.
- (e.g.) Updated Civil Service Conduct Rules.
- ③ Recusal and proactive disclosure of conflict of interest.
- (e.g.) Allegations on SEBI chief.
- ④ Ethical leadership based on Nolan principles. While empathy & compassion remain vital, impartiality is the foundational value for a public servant.

4. Despite the presence of constitutional morality, religious ethics, and civil society activism, heinous crimes such as gender violence, ethnic hatred, and social exclusion rooted in irrational dogmas continue to persist in many societies. Why do such injustices endure despite institutionalised value systems? Critically examine. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Thinkers like Hobbes argue that Man is inherently self-interested and immoral. No matter how moral a society becomes, there will be a few rotten apples always.

Why such injustices endure

① Failure of value education and inculcation by schools & parents.

(e.g.) Teacher absenteeism & apathy.

② Wrong role models projected by social media, movies, etc.

(e.g.) Controversy recently over "Animal" movie.

③ Weak moral compass of a few individuals with sociopathic tendencies.

(e.g.) Delhi gang rape case.

④ Patriarchal structures of societies leading to domestic abuse and honour killings

(Don't write anything in this area)

⑤ Racism, casteism and xenophobia ⇒ lack of humanist ideals in society.

Potential solutions

⑥ Internalization of communitarian values from childhood on.

"Education must train heart, mind & soul"

— Swami Vivekananda

⑦ Strict law enforcement — both retributive and reformative justice should be delivered.

⑧ Promotion of feminist ethics & values of gender equality.

Hence, we must go beyond mere institutionalization towards internalization & enforcement of progressive value systems.

5. In many institutions, moral silence is rewarded while ethical dissent is punished. Yet, history is shaped by those who had the courage to disobey for the greater good. In this context, examine the ethical tensions between loyalty to group norms and fidelity to one's conscience. Support your answer with relevant examples. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

In order to be moral, one must often challenge herd mentality and established societal norms.

(e.g.) Raja Rammohan Roy's revolt against Sati.

History shaped by those who had courage to disobey

→ Whistleblowers like Edward Snowden try to make the world a more just place.

→ Social reform and progress is built on moral revolt of a few.

(e.g.) French Revolution bringing ideals of liberty & equality.

You can show the challenges that arise
Examples present but not substantive points

3



→ Societies are often in a state of moral apathy & must be awakened.

(e.g.) German society during Nazi regime.

Group norms vs. conscience

Add the previous heading here

① As per thinkers like Gandhiji, conscience is the best ethical guide.

(e.g.) Withdrawal of non-cooperation movement after Chauri-Chaura.

② Kant's deontology also gives primacy to duty over social norms.

③ Inner conscience required to revolt against state repression.

However, this revolt must be gradual and participatory in order to ensure long-term societal transformation.

(Don't write anything in this area)



6. "I am not bound to win, but I am bound to be true. I am not bound to succeed, but I am bound to live by the light that I have." — Abraham Lincoln
Discuss the relevance of this quote in the context of ethical leadership and public service.
(10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

This quote highlights the importance of truth, integrity & purity of means in the context of leadership & public service.

Ethical leadership

① Importance to a moral path over victory

⇒ a good leader must set an ethical precedent

(e.g.) Satish Dhawan's emphasis on procedural integrity.

② Means over ends — success must come through ethical means.

(e.g.) Gandhi's Satyagraha & focus on Ahimsa.

③ Victory based on lies & deception can never be long-lasting.

(e.g.) Hitler's downfall in the World War II.



Public service

① A public servant must listen to his voice of conscience & prioritize welfare.

(e.g.) Lal Bahadur Shastri's resignation as Railway Minister after a train accident.

② Professional integrity - a public servant must never use unfair means for personal gains.

③ Transparency & accountability for one's actions.

(e.g.) Truthful replies to RTI applications.

④ Hierarchy vs. probity - not following & reporting unethical orders of seniors.

(e.g.) Whistleblowers like Edward Snowden.

In the end, it doesn't matter whether you won, but how you won.

(Don't write anything in this area)

5

7. Despite knowing that taking responsibility for one's mistakes is ethically right and often beneficial in the long run, many individuals in professional settings fear doing so. Do you agree that acknowledging one's own mistakes is better, both ethically and pragmatically? Also, examine situations where such admissions may prove counterproductive. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

"The sign of a man of morals and intelligence is whether he admits he was wrong & whether he acts on it"

- Abraham Lincoln

Acknowledging one's mistakes is better

① As per Socrates, truth is the highest virtue.

② Admitting mistakes shows self-awareness and emotional intelligence.

(eg.) Rohit Sharma admitting his mistakes as a captain.

③ It ensures transparency & accountability in governance.

④ It enhances public trust in a person.



⑤ It ensures long-term integrity as the lie is bound to get exposed sooner or later.

⑥ It demonstrates a positive attitude and humility.

(e.g.) ISRO chief admitting mistakes after Chandra - Yan II failure.

When they can be counterproductive

① When sensitive issues like national interest are involved.

(e.g.) IAF chose not to disclose casualties after Op. Sindoor.

② When it causes more harm than good, violating the utilitarian principle.

However, one must prioritize openness and truth as far as possible, for

“To err is to human & to forgive is divine”

(Don't write anything in this area)

Need more points with examples in this part



8. In the present world, moral responsibility of serving the public is no longer confined to the state. Private corporations too can flourish—both materially and ethically—by embracing a larger sense of purpose. In this context, examine the role of businesses in promoting good governance through ESG values.

(10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

As per principles of corporate ethics, private institutions have increasing developmental & governance responsibilities.

Private corporations can flourish materially

- ① Building social & human capital through contributing to healthcare & education.
⇒ Increased productivity & efficiency.

(e.g.) Tata Trust's Skill Development initiatives.

- ② Enhanced credibility, and soft image leading to better ratings.
⇒ increased investment by shareholders.

Can flourish ethically

Better representation will be in three heads such as environmental social and governance angles



- ① Gandhiji's trusteeship principle ⇒ capitalists are mere trustees of public wealth.
- ② Ethical capitalism is essential to achieve Sustainable Development goals.
- (e.g.) Infosys scholarships to weaker sections.

Role in Good Governance

- ① Promote conscious consumption and production in line with SDG 12 and environmental ethics → (e.g.) Net Zero factories.
- ② Inclusive & accessible public service delivery to bridge developmental deficit.
- ③ In line with Gandhian ideal of Sarvodaya ⇒ Capitalism & growth should not be limited to a few.
⇒ In line with Amartya Sen's Capability Approach.

(Don't write anything in this area)

Bring more points with examples in this part



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9. Corruption is often less a deliberate intent to harm others, and more a reflection of an attitude shaped by a narrow, short-sighted view of one's life and role in society. In such cases, cultivating self-esteem and empathy — both personally and professionally — may prove more transformative than punitive measures. Comment. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

As per World Bank, corruption refers to misappropriation of funds for personal gains. Gandhiji argued that dereliction of duty is also a form of corruption.

Shaped by a narrow short sighted view

- ① Result of falsely placed values → primacy to materialism rather than humanism.
- ② Self-centeredness rather than focussing on collective good.
- ③ Primacy to means over ends and using impure means for personal gains.

Self-esteem & empathy in personal sphere



① A sense of contentment with what one has $\Rightarrow$ inculcating temperance as suggested by Aquinas.

(e.g.) Modesty of Anna Hazare.

② Compassion towards all beings & realizing the unity of all creation.

$\Rightarrow$ "Good of One lies in Good of All"

Self-esteem & empathy professionally

① Empathy for public's concerns $\Rightarrow$ results in judicious and righteous use of funds.

② Taking pride in values of professional integrity & probity $\Rightarrow$ sets an ethical climate at workplace.

As 2nd ARC rightly points out:

"Even one misappropriated Rupee is a life denied"

(Don't write anything in this area)

Mention some punitive measures. How the empathy and self esteem will be better than this ?



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10. While the Right to Information (RTI) Act is widely celebrated for empowering citizens and fostering transparency, its deeper contribution lies in institutionalising professionalism and enhancing the operational efficiency of public administration. Critically examine. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

RTI act was a landmark legislation ensuring democratic deepening and accountable governance.

Institutionalizing professionalism

- ① Ended bureaucratic opaqueness $\Rightarrow$ citizens can hold public servants answerable.
- ② Streamlined procedure to obtain information.
(e.g.) e-RTI applications.
- ③ Responsive rather than obstructive governance, leading to enhanced public trust.

Enhancing operational efficiency

- ① Reduced corruption leading to efficient



(Don't write anything in this area)

allocation of public funds.

② Increased adherence to professional integrity by officials.

③ Strict timelines for responses leading to swift justices.

Need more points in both the heads. with examples in the real world

However, challenges remain

① Misuse of exemptions like DSA.

⇒ bureaucratic redtapism continues.

② Frivolous RTI application by groups with vested interests.

③ Lack of adequate protection to whistle-blowers → (eg) murder of RTI activist in Chattisgarh recently.

Thus, RTI Act must be further strengthened with institutional safeguards to ensure efficacy.



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11. "You yourself, as much as anyone in the entire universe, deserve your love and affection." — Gautama Buddha Discuss how this view can contribute to individual and collective well-being. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

The quote highlights importance of self-love for the wellbeing of a society.

Contribution to individual wellbeing

- ① Increases self-confidence prerequisite for success.
- ② Enhances self-awareness and gives one a sense of calmness & composure.
(e.g.) Ms Dhoni's temperament during matches.
- ③ Enables one to handle high-pressure situations with fortitude.
- ④ Projects a positive attitude that can inspire others.
(e.g.) Dr. Abdul Kalam's infectious positivity.



Contribution to collective well-being

① Self-love is prerequisite for compassion.

(e.g.) Kailash Sahyarthi's ~~emphasis~~ on self-esteem.

② It enhances individual mental health, improving overall social harmony.

③ It creates ethical leaders who can steer the society in the right direction.

(e.g.) Nelson Mandela

④ It creates a just & equal society based on mutual trust & respect, as argued by Gilgani's Care Ethics.

"Love thy neighbour, but first love yourself"

— Pope Francis

(Don't write anything in this area)



12. Bureaucracy in democratic systems are often criticised for red-tapism, stagnation, and impersonality. However, there is less public empathy for the ethical pressures and institutional constraints under which sincere public servants operate. Discuss the ethical relevance of cultivating public empathy towards democratic institutions and suggest ways to nurture a more constructive citizen-state relationship. (10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Indian bureaucracy inherited a lot of colonial vestiges, leading to red tapism and impersonality.

Constraint under which bureaucrats operate

- 1) Departmental Silos
⇒ lack of coordination
- 2) Complex web of procedures and regulations.
- 3) Lack of resources, infra and funds.
- 4) Generalist bureaucrats tasked with complex specialist tasks.
- 5) Political pressure

Ethical relevance of public empathy towards democratic institutions



① Public trust gives legitimacy to democracy as it is based on collective conscience of people.

(Don't write anything in this area)

② It can motivate public servants to go beyond the call of duty.

③ Empathy towards public servants can cultivate a platform for participatory governance.

Ways to nurture

↳ Citizen to Government model of e-governance
⇒ Increased contact between citizens & state.
(e.g.) MyGov.in.

↳ Accessible & open bureaucracy, (e.g.) "Junta Durbars"

↳ Educated & aware citizenry

↳ Flat hierarchies and simplified procedures to make governance more inclusive. (e.g.) "Collector Bhaiya" initiative



13. A public servant must be clear about *what to do*—as outlined in the Code of Conduct—but unless they also understand *why to do it*, as guided by the Code of Ethics, the system cannot truly progress. In this context, examine how the alignment of Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics enables public servants to be both rule-bound and ethically responsive in a role-based administrative system.

(10 Marks)

(Don't write anything in this area)

Code of conduct & code of ethics are vital tools to ensure professional & organizational integrity.

<u>Code of ethics</u>	<u>Code of conduct</u>
→ a <u>broad</u> & general vision.	→ more <u>specific</u> in nature.
→ Only <u>recommendatory</u> in nature	→ <u>Enforceable</u>
→ No consequences for violation	→ <u>Penal provisions</u> for misconduct.

Not needed

How their alignment enables rule-bound public servants



(Don't write anything in this area)

① Clear definitions of rights & wrongs
⇒ less ambiguity in actions
(e.g.) Conflict of Interest clauses.

② Penalties for misconduct sets a deterrence.

③ Creates an ethical climate and moral consensus on paths of action.

Enables ethically responsive public servants

① Code of ethics & its internalization
increases motivation to act morally.

② Creates an ethical leadership that inspires subordinates.

③ Loyalty towards organizational vision
propels public servants towards spirit of service.

(e.g.) Following the motto of "Shilam Param Bhushanam" in letter & spirit.



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14. You are the Project Director of a National Highway (NH) widening project in a hilly and ecologically sensitive area of Kerala. Expanding the NH network and identifying key corridors for accelerated development is the main mandate of Ministry of Roadways. It is showcased by the increase in average pace of the construction of National Highways to 31 km per day in the last five financial years (FY20-FY24). The government is also encouraging adoption of new technologies, and investing in knowledge sharing and capacity building to ensure long-term infrastructure readiness. You are asked by your seniors to ensure that the project is fast-tracked. This is due to an approaching election deadline, and contractors are under pressure to complete work, even during the monsoon season. Despite warnings from geologists, your team proceeds with deep cutting and earthwork. The project was given approval by the Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of the Union Ministry of Environment. The EAC itself noted the area's vulnerability, referencing major landslides in 2019 and 2024. It warned that vibrations from tunnelling could destabilise surrounding slopes and structures. Approval was conditional on adherence to mitigation recommendations from the CSIR-Central Institute of Mining and Fuel Research, with a compliance report due within six months of construction beginning. Shortly after, a section of the road collapses, killing two workers and injuring a passerby. The media highlights design flaws, locals protest against the unsafe construction, and environmentalists accuse the department of ignoring ecological norms. The central ministry demands an explanation. The contractor blames faulty terrain; engineers allege political pressure; and your own junior team warns of further risk if work continues.

(Don't write anything in this area)

- (a) Identify and elaborate on the ethical dilemmas faced by you in this situation.
- (b) What are your responsibilities towards:
1. The affected families
 2. The department and ministry
 3. The general public
 4. The environment
- (c) What short-term and long-term ethical actions would you take to address both accountability and systemic reform? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

The given case study highlights the perils of political pressure and an impartial



Bureaucracy, leading to long-term ecological
human, and fiscal adverse impacts.

(Don't
write
anything
in this
area)

(a) Ethical dilemmas faced

(1) Listening to my inner conscience vs.
following hierarchy of seniors' orders.

(2) Maintaining organizational credibility of
the department & ministry vs. succumbing
to political pressure.

(3) Primacy to short term electoral interest
vs. long-term public interest.

(4) Transparency and whistleblowing to expose
to bureaucrat-politician-contractor nexus
vs. upholding organizational interest.



⑥ My responsibilities towards :

(Don't write anything in this area)

① Affected families

↳ Ensuring justice - fair compensation

↳ ~~punishing the responsible.~~

↳ Rehabilitation of families.

② Department & ministry

↳ Ensuring probity and laying the facts in a transparent manner.

③ General public

↳ Issuance of communication openly and a public apology if necessary.

↳ Stopping the project until safety is ensured in line with Aristotelian cardinal virtue of prudence.

④ Environment - ensure adherence to mitigation measures as suggested by CSR in line with principles of deep ecology.

Rearrange priority

1st empathy
- Consoling

Short-term & long-term ethical reforms

(Don't write anything in this area)

(I) Short-term actions

↳ Suspension of responsible officials in the ministry who have colluded with politicians & contractors.

↳ Standard Operating Procedure to ensure merit-based tendering process.

↳ Seek expert opinion and stakeholder engagement to identify further course of action, in line with discourse ethics.

↳ (II) Long-term actions

↳ Enforcement of a code of conduct to ensure that foundational values of impartiality & probity are upheld.



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↳ Inclusion of a permanent panel of geologists & ecologists with binding recommendations.

(Don't write anything in this area)

↳ Foundational training of all the officials.

↳ Online disclosure of tenders and open allocation of project works to ensure full transparency.

Thus, I will prioritize my duty towards public & environment and not towards the government, in line with Kantian deontology.

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15. You are a renowned Indian sportsperson, widely respected for your achievements and contribution to cricket. Recently, the cricket boards of India and England announced that the historic Pataudi Trophy will be renamed after you, as the new [Your Name] Trophy, to honor your legacy in the sport. The move was made to mark the 75th anniversary of India's first Test, against England in 1932. The Pataudi Trophy was commissioned in 2007 by the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC) to be awarded to the winner of the Test series between India and England, played in England.

While many celebrate this, the decision has sparked controversy. Critics, including former players, historians, fans, and notably the Pataudi family, feel that the renaming undermines the legacy of Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi, the original namesake who symbolized Indo-UK cricket relations. The Pataudi family has had deep ties to the India-England cricketing landscape. Iftikhar Ali Khan Pataudi and his son Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi both captained India and played county cricket in England. The former is the only cricketer to represent India and England in Tests. The decision was reportedly made without consulting key stakeholders, including the Pataudi family.

You have always regarded Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi as a guiding figure in your career, having closely interacted with his family over the years. This personal connection creates an ethical dilemma about publicly responding to the renaming—balancing respect for his enduring legacy with acceptance of the honor bestowed upon you. Remaining silent might be interpreted as indifference or disrespect, while speaking out might invite controversy and strain relationships. The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) has invited you to publicly comment on this sensitive matter.

- (a) Analysing the case bring out the issues involved.
- (b) How would you respond publicly in a manner that respects the legacy of Mansur Ali Khan Pataudi, honours your own achievements, and addresses public concerns?
- (c) How can sports administration balance honouring contemporary legends while preserving historical legacies?
- (d) In your opinion is respect given or earned? (250 Words) (20 Marks)

The case highlights the necessity to maintain values like personal integrity and humility in face of temptations.

(Don't write anything in this area)



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and showing the Platonic virtue of temperance.

(Don't write anything in this area)

① The ethical issues involved

- ① Competing loyalties - towards Pataudi family and BCCI.
- ② Prioritizing personal gains vs. integrity - choosing fame over legacy of Pataudi family.
- ③ Listening to voice of conscience vs. organizational directive.
- ④ Reverence & gratitude towards Pataudi family vs. my organizational duty towards BCCI.



⑥ How I would respond publicly

(Don't write anything in this area)

① I would respectfully decline the offer to rename the trophy, citing respect towards Pataudi family's legacy.

⇒ this will avoid crisis of conscience.

② I would urge BCCI to engage with stakeholders before renaming any other trophy, as decisions must reflect the General Will of society as proposed by Rousseau.

③ I will also mention that not renaming the trophy will not undermine my achievements, as representing the nation is the highest honour for me.



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② How sports administration can balance

(Don't write anything in this area)

① Prioritizing historical legacies should be the way ahead as present success is built on their sweat & blood.

"We must understand that we are dwarfs sitting on shoulders of past giants".
- Isaac Newton.

② Contemporary legends can be respected through awards & remunerations.

③ The ~~message~~ should also be conveyed that all legends are equal and ~~each~~ each of them have played their part → this will ensure collective consensus and maintain collegiality & fraternity in the cricketing community.



④ Whether respect is given or earned

→ In the competitive spheres like sports, respect is ~~first~~ earned through achievements.

→ However, in personal sphere, respect is non-negotiable and must be given to each individual.

⇒ Kant's 1st categorical imperative states that each human has intrinsic value and must be respected.

→ Socle also argued that mutual respect is a social good on which societies are built.

It is rightly said that one receives as much respect as he gives.

(Don't write anything in this area)



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16. You are the owner of a reputed travel agency specializing in international tours. Recently, the Minister of communication in the Maldivian government publicly criticised the conduct of our government. The criticism was not only demeaning but also made without verifying the facts. It hurt the emotions of 1.3 billion Indian population with huge backlash against Maldives. The statement by minister didn't consider that India and Maldives share ethnic, linguistic, cultural, religious and commercial links steeped in antiquity. The relations have been close, cordial and multi-dimensional. India was among the first to recognize Maldives after its independence in 1965 and to establish diplomatic relations with the country.

(Don't write anything in this area)

In reaction, a strong social media campaign emerged encouraging Indians to boycott travel to Maldives. In terms of direct employment, tourism accounts for > 1/3rd of job opportunities for Maldivians and if the allied sectors are included, the contribution of tourism sector in total employment (direct and indirect) would rise up to nearly 70%. Your travel agency began facing a surge of cancellations for tours to Maldives, severely impacting your business revenue and threatening employee livelihoods.

To complicate matters further, you receive indirect pressure from certain government officials to limit your agency's promotions related to tourist spots in Maldives, citing national interest and diplomatic sensitivities. However, no official government order or policy restricts travel to these countries. You are now navigating a complex ethical and business dilemma involving upholding client freedom of choice, responding to nationalistic sentiments, maintaining business viability, and respecting informal government signals.

- Identify the key stakeholders in this situation
- Examine the challenges posed by social media campaigns in influencing public opinion and business operations during geopolitical conflicts.
- How would you respond ethically and strategically to the social media boycott campaign affecting your business?
- What do you understand by slip of tongue and how can it affect relations?

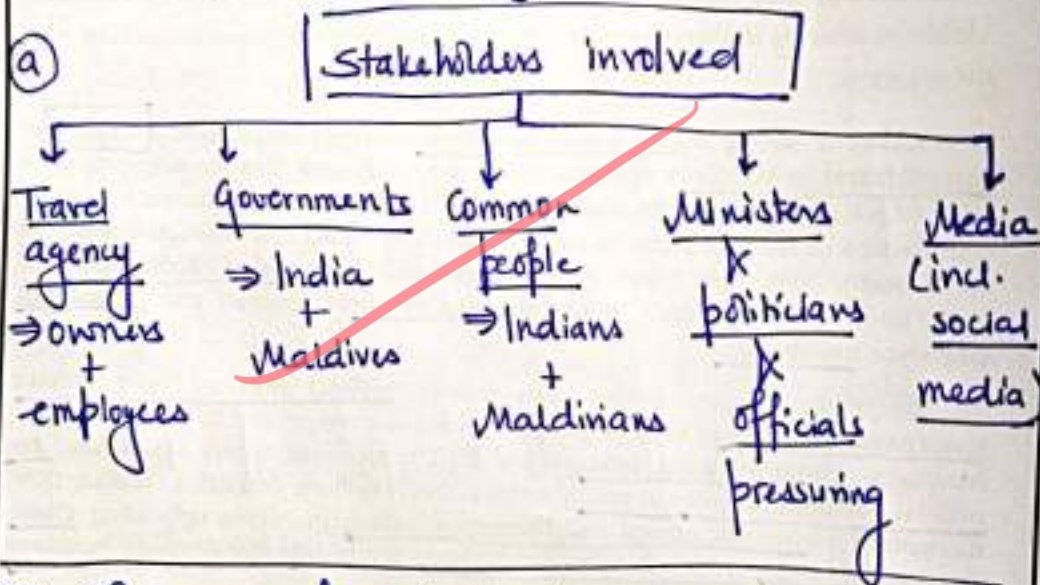
(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The given case study brings to light a complex web of ethical dilemmas including national interest vs. livelihoods, business ethics



nationalism vs. humanism, etc. A strong maturity quotient and emotional intelligence are required to navigate the situation.

(Don't write anything in this area)



(b) Challenges ~~face~~ posed by social media

- (1) Sensationalism and cases of media trials leading to distortion of facts.
- (2) Villainization of individuals and character assassinations ⇒ violating purity of means as emphasized by Gandhiji.



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③ Subjectivity based on half-truths, violative of media ethics.

④ Paid propaganda and fake news, violative of professional integrity.

⑤ My response

① I will have to walk a moral tightrope to balance national sentiments and my employee livelihoods.

② I will use my persuasion skills in order to convince my customers to make alternate travel plans.

③ Parallelly, I will ask the pressurizing officials to submit their demand in writing, to ensure transparency and procedural integrity.

(Don't write anything in this area)



④ I will use my social skills and networks in Maldives to broadcast positive messages and experiences towards India & its people.

→ This will help mend ties and send an optimistic signal to Indians & shape public opinion positively.

⑤ Slip of tongue & its effect

→ Slip of tongue refers to unintended words or overreaction as a result of impulse or heat of the moment.

→ Though mostly trivial, it can also have lasting repercussions.

① It can hurt self respect of individuals in case something insulting is uttered.

(Don't write anything in this area)



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② It can hurt long term interpersonal relations

(e.g.) recent conflict of words between Ama Farukh Abdullah & A.S. Dulat.

③ Jaina Ethics and also the Old Testament teach us that words are the most potent weapons

→ Hence, they must be used wisely & judiciously.

④ Self-regulation and self-reflection as propounded by Dan Goleman are essential for ensuring right speech in interpersonal relations.

(Don't write anything in this area)

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17. You are the District Collector in charge of overseeing the acquisition and development of urban commercial complex near Hyderabad. The construction is focused on ensuring overall infrastructure development in the city so that the state is well prepared before planned bidding for national games. The building construction is progressed in an area which is presently occupied by illegal slums for the last 60 years. The contract for the construction is given to a prominent builder who is known to be close to leaders of both ruling and opposition parties. It is seen as a typical instance of politically connected builder gaining rights for construction or redevelopment to a low-income neighbourhood. You receive instructions from the state government to expedite land clearance for a proposed infrastructure hub.

Work begins straight away using heavy machinery, with police deployment to avoid protests. Slum dwellers and local NGO members raise the issue before media and state government about legal violations and want the demolition to be stopped unless suitable rehabilitation measures are provided by state. You are instructed by the state cabinet to complete the demolition under any circumstance as it involves long term vision for the city. You are permitted to use force if needed. You convey to your seniors that as per Supreme Court guidelines in cases involving slum demolition proper process need to be followed even if the area is illegally occupied.

The complaints from seniors force you to immediately act. The subsequent actions taken by you result in death of few individuals and the matter comes to the attention of High court. The High Court halts the work, and later holds the Chief Secretary personally accountable, ordering restoration and a full inquiry. You are now asked to report to the investigating team. It is becoming very difficult for the state government to respond to public outrage—all while managing political expectations and maintaining administrative neutrality.

- What are the dilemmas you face in this situation as a civil servant?
- Explain how principles of good governance (transparency, accountability, participation) were violated or upheld in the above case. What can be done to restore public trust?
- As an administrator, how would you balance your obligations toward political executives, civil society, judiciary in such a situation?
- Should the High Court's intervention in halting the work be viewed as judicial activism or ethical necessity? Critically analyse.

(250 Words)

(20 Marks)

This case is a textbook example of

(Don't write anything in this area)



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how a nexus among political leadership and builder mafia can result in long-term injustice. It also showcases how neglecting procedural integrity leads to dire consequences, as propounded by Datline of Karma.

(Don't write anything in this area)

(a) Dilemmas faced by me

① Adherence to truth vs. organizational credibility - my truthful report can erode public trust in the government.

② Transparency vs. collegiality - my transparent narration of facts can have long-term impact on my relations with colleagues.

③ Adherence to my Dharma as a public servant at potential cost of my career.



④ Upholding public interest and justice for the downtrodden vs. pleasing the political leadership.

(Don't write anything in this area)

⑥ How principles of good governance were violated

→ SC guidelines were not followed, violating procedural justice of Aristotle.

→ Bypassing stakeholder consultation ⇒ violation of participatory & consensus-based governance.

→ Partisan and opaque allocation of tender ⇒ violative of rule of law and meritocracy and impartiality.

How to restore public trust



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① Ensure generous compensation and adequate rehabilitation in line with Rawlsian justice.

(Don't write anything in this area)

② Provide alternate livelihoods to slum dwellers, in line with Amartya Sen's Capability Approach.

③ Holding the perpetrators accountable for their actions and ensuring proportionate punishment.

④ How I will balance my obligations

① As recommended by 2nd ARC, I will prioritize public interest at any cost.

② I will follow executive orders only if they are in line with constitutional morality and legal provisions.



③ I will try to consult civil society in policy formulation & implementation, in line with communitarianism.

④ I will try to follow judicial doctrines as judiciary is the guardian of fundamental rights.

⑤ Judicial activism or ethical necessity

→ HC's intervention was definitely an ethical necessity as fundamental right to life & liberty as per Art. 21 was violated.

10 → Also, rule of law was violated as due process of law was not followed.

→ HC's decision reflected the collective conscience of society as per Durkheim and thus ethically justified.

(Don't write anything in this area)



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18. The duty of citizens towards the state refers to the moral, legal, and civic responsibilities that individuals owe to their nation in return for the rights and freedoms they enjoy. These duties are essential for the functioning, stability, and progress of any democratic society. A nation flourishes when its citizens are not just beneficiaries of rights but also active contributors to its development. Duties towards the state form the foundation of civic ethics, national strength, and social harmony. Kumar is a senior reporter with a leading English daily based in Washington. The editorial board has recently asked him to write a feature elaborating about the need for balance between duties and rights of citizens. While Kumar was researching for the above news feature he saw that in recent times, there has been a noticeable rise in instances of lawlessness across the world — including violent protests, mob justice, disregard for judicial rulings, and armed insurgencies. He was astonished that this is happening in both developed and developing nations. Most of these protests happen because people have scant regard for the state. Kumar comes to conclusion that there is no relation between development in a society and citizens upholding law. He feels what is mentioned by Dr. Ambedkar is true for the instance- "When there was no way left for constitutional methods for achieving economic and social objectives, there was a great deal of justification for unconstitutional methods. But where constitutional methods are open, there can be no justification for these unconstitutional methods."

(Don't write anything in this area)

- (a) Analysing the above issue, bring out one instance from recent times where you felt that public protest was valid?
- (b) Do citizens have an ethical responsibility to protest peacefully, or does oppression justify violent resistance?
- (c) Is the erosion of civic duties a failure of state institutions, or of individual moral character?

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The fore-said case showcases the fine balance between rights & duties in the Social Contract between citizens & states, and how its erosion leads to moral & civic anarchy.

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① Analysis of Issue

(Don't write anything in this area)

① Kumar's research shows how primacy to rights over duties can lead to constitutional breakdown.

⇒ Gandhi remarked that "there are no rights without duties".

② It shows rising ethical egoism as proposed by John Rawls ⇒ how individuals prioritize individual good over societal good.

③ It can also be seen as breakdown of individual moral compass and a crisis of values in the modern material world.

When protest is justified

→ Protest is ethical when arbitrary state action violates individual rights.



e.g. recent protests in Hyderabad over cutting of Gachibowli forests

→ violation of ecological rights & right to clean environment.

→ State actions should reflect the General Will of society.

(Don't write anything in this area)

(b) Peaceful protest vs. violent resistance

① Jainism teaches us that "Ahimsa Paramo Dharma" ⇒ non-violence is the highest good.

② India's constitutional ethos also mandates right to protest peacefully, as seen in Art. 19

③ Violent protests result in societal chaos and threat to life & liberty.

④ However, as Bhagvad Gita argues,



a just war against Adharma is justified.

→ (e.g.) Resistance against a cruel colonial power as undertaken by Bhagat Singh.

→ However, violence is a means to an end & not an end itself.

→ As per Bentham's consequentialism, violence must lead to an ethical end.

③ Erosion of civic duties due to failure of institutions

- 1) Failures of schools & parents to impart value education
- 2) Failure of law & order
- 3) Failure of judiciary.

→ Failure of moral character

3) Lack of temperance

- 1) Narrow sense of values
⇒ primacy to personal gains
- 2) Neglect of self-regulation and discipline.

(Don't write anything in this area)



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19. Dr. Aditi, a young and dedicated medical officer, has been serving in a government hospital in a semi-urban district for the past four years. Known for her compassion and commitment to patient care, she has often worked under pressure and with very limited resources. However, the situation has progressively worsened over the last year. The hospital she works in caters to a population of over 10 lakh people but has only 4 full-time doctors. It suffers from chronic shortages of medicines, outdated or non-functional diagnostic equipment, and irregular power supply. Basic infrastructure like ventilators, surgical tools, and even clean drinking water are frequently unavailable. Patients often in critical conditions, are referred to higher centres located over 100 km away—sometimes resulting in avoidable deaths. Despite these constraints, Dr. Aditi and her team try their best to deliver quality healthcare. But their efforts are often met with frustration from patients' families who fail to understand the ground realities. In a recent case, after the death of a young accident victim who could not be stabilized due to the lack of oxygen supply, angry bystanders vandalized the hospital and assaulted staff. Politicians from the local area, instead of addressing the infrastructure failure, blamed the doctors for negligence. Feeling unsupported, harassed, and emotionally drained, Dr. Aditi took to social media to post an open letter. In it, she described the unbearable pressure, the frequent threats from local political goons, and the lack of basic protection or facilities. She stated that she could no longer serve in an environment where human lives are treated like statistics and medical professionals like scapegoats. She threatened to resign from public service if urgent reforms were not undertaken.

(a) Analysing the case bring out the issues involved.

(b) Is the threat by Dr. Aditi to resign from service in conflict with the civil service foundational values?

(c) If you happen to be Dr. Aditi what course of action will you follow.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The given case shows how despite utmost dedication to duty and spirit of service, ground realities and failure of political leadership can cause injustice and scapegoating of committed professionals.

(Don't write anything in this area)

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a) Issues involved in the case

- ① Lack of political will leading to inadequate services despite performance of duty by doctors.
- ② Potential corruption and misappropriation of funds meant for healthcare infra by politicians.
- ③ Shifting of moral responsibility on innocent doctors.
- ④ Lack of emotional quotient in some patients' families who vandalized the hospital.

b) Whether threat to resign in conflict with foundational values

(Don't write anything in this area)



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(Don't write anything in this area)

→ Supererogation and commitment to duty is a foundational value. Dr. Aditi should try to further ~~imp~~ dispose of her duties.

→ However, in present circumstances, it has become impossible to do so.

→ If her threat raises public awareness and ensures reform in the system, it is ethically justified as per consequentialism.

② My course of action

① I will further raise awareness about the issue on social media to build pressure on political leadership.

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Can use in third person



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② I will also try to unionize other doctors and write a collective letter to concerned authorities with suggested reforms.

③ I will ask the judiciary to provide protection to doctors so they can perform their duties without threats.

Hence, I will try to demonstrate fortitude & perseverance in face of adversity and continue to follow my Dharma.

(Don't write anything in this area)

Aham
Bhava

10

If you are all to show some
few recent examples in all
case studies it will be
very good.