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NEXT IAS

Ethics Enhancer Test 2024

(To be filled by candidate)

TEST CODE : EE2401

Test No. : 01

Name of Candidate: NANCY SINGH Mobile No.Roll No. : GSPMACTA24A1428 Start Time End Time.....Date of Examination: 14-08-2024 Medium : English Hindi

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
1.(a)	10	
1.(b)	10	
2.(a)	10	
2.(b)	10	
3.(a)	10	
3.(b)	10	
4.(a)	10	
4.(b)	10	
5.(a)	10	
5.(b)	10	
TOTAL MARKS - 100		

Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained
6.(a)	10	
6.(b)	10	
6.(c)	10	
7.	20	
8.	20	
9.	20	
10.	20	
11.	20	
12.	20	
TOTAL MARKS - 150		

GRAND TOTAL -/ 250

EVAL CODE: EVAL DATE:

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

- Immediately on receipt of the QCA booklet, please check that this QCA booklet does not have any misprint or torn or missing pages or items, etc. If so, get it replaced by a fresh QCA booklet.
- Candidates must mention all relevant details like Name, Email, Roll No, Mobile, etc. in the space allocated.
- Candidate is expected to attempt all 12 questions within the given timeline.
- Answers must be written in the medium authorized at the time of admission.
- Candidates must write answers for the specific question under the respective question itself. Any answer written outside the space allotted may not be given credit.
- Please write neatly. Avoid illegible writing.
- Do not write/mark irrelevant matters in the QCAB.

सामान्य निर्देश

- QCA पुस्तिका प्राप्त होने पर कृपया तुरंत जांच लें कि इस QCA पुस्तिका में कोई पृष्ठ या सामग्री आदि गलत छपी हुई या फटी हुई या गायब तो नहीं है। यदि ऐसा है, तो इसे एक नई QCA पुस्तिका से बदल लें।
- अभ्यर्थियों को सभी प्रासंगिक विवरण जैसे नाम, ईमेल, रोल नंबर, मोबाइल नंबर आदि का आवंटित स्थान पर उल्लेख करना होगा।
- अभ्यर्थियों से अपेक्षा की जाती है कि वह आवंटित समय-सीमा के भीतर ही सभी 12 प्रश्नों के उत्तर-लेखन का प्रयास करें।
- प्रत्येक उत्तर, प्रवेश के समय चुनी गयी भाषा के माध्यम में ही लिखे जाने चाहिए।
- अभ्यर्थियों को विशिष्ट प्रश्न के उत्तर संबंधित प्रश्न के नीचे ही लिखने होंगे। आवंटित स्थान के बाहर लिखे गए किसी भी उत्तर को क्रेडिट नहीं दिया जाएगा।
- कृपया साफ-सुथरा लिखें। अफठनीय लेखन से बचें।
- QCAB में अप्रासंगिक तथ्यों को न लिखें / न ही चिह्नित करें।

REMARKS:

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

<u>Student Concerns / Query</u>	<u>Evaluator's Feedback / Response</u>
1	1
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2	2
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3	3
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MARKING SCHEME *			
Marks Per Ques	Below Average	Average	Above Average
10 Marks	Below 3.00	3.00 - 3.75	4.00 and above
15 Marks	Below 4.50	4.50 - 5.75	6.00 and above

* Subject to change without prior notice.

IMPORTANT QR CODES

 <p>Topper's Copy</p>	 <p>Common mistake and Correct Filled QCAB</p>
 <p>Copy Scanner App</p>	 <p>Next IAS Test Centre Location</p>

MACRO COMMENTS

The Purpose of evaluation@nextias.com is to provide constructive suggestions on 'How to improve Answer Writing and thereby score better marks.

STRENGTHS OF THE CANDIDATE

AREAS OF IMPROVEMENT



IMPROVEMENT SUGGESTIONS

खण्ड-A / Section-A

1. (a) लोक सेवा मूल्यों (public service values) और लोक प्रशासन नैतिकता (public administration ethics) के बीच संबंध स्पष्ट कीजिए। क्या आपको लगता है कि लोक सेवा मूल्य विभाग के मिशन/उद्देश्य को महिमामंडित करने के लिए केवल वाक्पटु कथन (eloquent statements) हैं, या लोक सेवकों के लिए उनकी कोई उपयोगिता है? चर्चा कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Explain the relationship between Public Service Values and Public Administration Ethics. Do you think public service values are only eloquent statements for glorifying the Department's mission, or do they have any utility for public servants? Discuss. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ethics in administration is a set of well-based standards that guides a public official to know what is right and wrong. Values and ethics interplay in actions.

Relationship between Public service values and Public Administration Ethics

Values are consistent principles while public administration ethics is application of public service values in the conduct of public official to engage in ethical decision making. Thus public values and administration ethics are

deeply interlinked.

Example: Public service values like quality of service delivery helps public administration to work efficiently and effectively.

Public service values are not only doquent statement. They are much more than that.

→ Values like leadership instill smooth functioning between departments.

→ Ethical work culture promotes good and well being of public servants like and citizens.

→ Efficiency and effectivity increases the credibility and reliability of public servants.

Thus values when practiced in administration help in making public servant.

Karmaysji.

1. (b) विवेकपूर्ण लोक सेवक (conscientious public servant) प्रतिस्पर्धी विचारों को कैसे छांटता है और "सही काम क्या करना है" का निर्धारण कैसे करता है? जब जनता की सेवा करने की बात आती है, तो कोई अपने मूल्यों को व्यवहार में कैसे लाता है? उदाहरणों के साथ समझाएँ। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

How does the conscientious public servant sort through competing considerations and determine "the right thing to do?" When it comes to serving the public, how does one put one's values into practice? Illustrate with examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Ethics determines how one should live one's life. It engages public servant in knowing right and wrong when faced with ethical dilemmas.

A conscientious public servant is one who is morally committed and has courage to engage in moral decision making even in challenging decision situations.

A moral courage is required which helps in sorting competing interests. Values like integrity, objectivity and impartiality help public servants to know what is right to do.

Example: Satyendranath Dubey whistled and sacrificed his life to expose corruption.

Also, values help in avoiding matters of conflict of interest and managing conflict of commitments.

Values are universal principles that help in building strong interpersonal relationships.

Values put into practice

① 'Seva' : One does his duty diligently and put his/her heart and soul to promote public welfare. Example: Nobel Peace Prize winner Kailash Satyarthi.

② Dedication (Nishtha) : Public servants remain consistent and committed to promote well-being. Example : Seema Daka who saved children.

③ Fairness and justice helps in treating public ^{with} equality.

Conscientious public servant while upholding values work for alleviating pain and promoting happiness. (Utilitarianism)

2. (a) लोक प्रशासन और निगमों (corporations) में सुशासन से आप क्या समझते हैं? वे कैसे भिन्न हैं? कॉर्पोरेट संस्थानों (corporate setting) में सुशासन के लिए आधार के रूप में कार्य करने वाले तीन सिद्धांतों की पहचान कीजिए और उन्हें समझाएँ। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- What do you understand by good governance in public administration and corporations? How do they differ? Identify and explain three principles that can act as a foundation for good governance in a corporate setting. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Good governance means minimising the gap between the delivery of services and aspirations of people.

Good governance in public administration ensures promoting humaneness, public good, honesty, transparency, maintaining trust, accountability.

Good governance in corporation imply having customer orientation, promoting profit, innovation, corporate social responsibility.

Three principles for good governance in corporate

① Principle of Fairness : It means that

Corporation must treat their stakeholders and shareholders with equity and equality. Directors must not make use of their position.

Example: Boeing CEO Dennis Muilenberg received 27% increase by downgrading, which is against fairness.

② Principle of Transparency

↳ It means openness of information to make citizens empowered.

Example: IL & FS ^{was} engaged in hiding crisis - Against transparency.

③ Principle of Accountability

↳ Corporation must be accountable to the relevant stakeholders and must explain and justify their actions.

'Commerce without morality is a sin' according to Gandhi. Thus corporation must uphold basic values for citizen welfare.

2. (b) सुशासन की एक पहचान सरकारी विभागों द्वारा सार्वजनिक कार्यक्रमों के लिए वस्तुओं और सेवाओं की खरीद करते समय सख्त नैतिक मानकों का पालन करना है। खरीद प्रक्रिया की अखंडता को बनाए रखने के लिए जिन नैतिक सिद्धांतों का पालन किया जाना चाहिए, उनकी पहचान कीजिए और उनकी व्याख्या कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

One hallmark of good governance is government departments' adherence to strict ethical standards when procuring goods and services for public programmes. Identify and explain the ethical principles that must be respected to maintain the integrity of the procurement process.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Often, we come across instances of malprocurement practices that are a dent on good governance. This means fair procurement practices are stepping stone to good governance.

Principle that must be respected to maintain integrity of procurement

① Fairness :

Fairness implies procuring goods and services with equality and promoting justice. This helps in avoiding unethical practices like embezzlement, fake invoicing etc.

Example: MGNREGA into huge fake invoicing

② Impartiality : It means to remain objective and not take sides on any agenda. §

↳ It helps in avoiding unethical practices like insider trading which are threat to equality of opportunity and public trust.

③ Honesty and non-partisanship :

One must not be biased towards any ideology and practice truth to ensure that procurement takes place transparently without any favouritism and nepotism.

Good governance by upholding integrity is the pillars of Viksit Bharat.

3. (a) प्रशासनिक निर्णय लेते समय लोक सेवकों को हितधारकों के हितों, आधिकारिक दायित्वों और शासन मूल्यों के बीच किस तरह से नैतिक संतुलन बनाना चाहिए और इनमें से किसको सबसे अधिक नैतिक महत्व दिया जाना चाहिए?
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

How should public servants ethically balance stakeholder interests, official obligations, and regime values when making administrative decisions, and which of these should be given the most moral weight?
(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Public servants face challenging situations where they need to make a balance between stakeholders interests, official obligations and regime values.

How to balance?

① Moral Reasoning: Public servants must engage into evaluating of moral issues to arrive at ethical judgements to make a balance.

② Emotional intelligence: Public servants, ^{must} make use of EI to understand a situation comprehensively and holistically. This ensures that none of the element - interest, obligations and values get compromised.

③ Upholding moral values: Along with regime values, personal moral values like honesty, ~~truth~~ trustworthiness, respect for human dignity, ^{compassion} will help in maintaining balance.

④ Dialogue and deliberation with stakeholders.

⑤ Referring to Code of Conduct and Code of Ethics.

Stakeholder interests must be given the most moral ^{wight} as it is the duty (deontology) of public servants to promote public good and well-being.

They hold public position only to provide quality service so as to solve their grievances.

Public servants' happiness lies in the happiness of fulfilling of duty and maintain balance of all.

3. (b) हाल में शोधकर्ताओं ने तर्क दिया है कि आत्म-जागरूकता (self awareness) और सहानुभूति (empathy) के भावनात्मक कौशल (emotional skills) के बिना सरकार के स्वास्थ्य और सामाजिक-आधारित हस्तक्षेप काफी कम प्रभावी हैं। क्या आप सहमत हैं? प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ अपने उत्तर की पुष्टि कीजिए।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Recent researchers have argued that the government's health and social-based interventions are significantly less effective without the emotional skills of self-awareness and empathy. Do you agree? Justify your answer with relevant examples. .

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Emotional skills like self-awareness and empathy helps to understand the emotions of others and help in comprehending what one might be thinking and feeling.

Yes, I agree that government's health and social-based interventions are less effective without emotional skills.

① Duty Care Approach: With empathy and self-awareness, one can inculcate feeling of care to understand the unique needs of people.

Example: Delhi's government's scheme to provide teachers, ^{and health care experts} specialised in dealing with ~~at~~ children with special abilities.

① Emotions are central to all human relationships. Making use of emotional intelligence will help in making people comfortable to openly discuss about their sufferings.

Example: Child suffering from depression due to exam stress can connect meaningfully if mental counsellors possess empathy. (National Mental Health Policy)

② Emotional skills promote basic service delivery. They help in maintaining connectedness and relatedness.

Example: ASHA workers engage with people to understand citizens' problems.

The ultimate aim according to utilitarian principle is to have gentle relaxation of mind and absence of bodily pain. Emotional skills will help in achieving this aim making National Health Policy effective.

4. (a) प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ चर्चा कीजिए कि सिविल सेवकों के राजनीतिक और नैतिक दृष्टिकोण उनके कार्य नैतिकता (work ethics) और दैनिक प्रशासनिक निर्णय लेने को कैसे प्रभावित करते हैं।

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Discuss with relevant examples how civil servants' political and moral attitudes impact their work ethics and daily administrative decision-making. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Attitude is a system of enduring positive and negative evaluations, emotional feelings and action tendencies with respect to individual's social world.

Political attitude refers to having predispositions and idea about political issues, actors and institutions while moral attitude is based on cognitive and affectional values and aims to engage civil servant into ethical decision making.

Political and moral attitude impacting civil servants

① Political attitude

↳ Having a neutral political attitude is essential to engage civil servants in

non-partisanship behaviour. Also right political attitude helps in having right opinion of policies.

↳ A civil servant with right political attitude refrains from giving biased advices to political leaders.

For example: Political disengagement as seen in Ashok Khemka.

② Moral attitude

↳ It helps in navigating complex ethical situations. A civil servant with right moral attitude is morally attentive and upholds values of impartiality, compassion and benevolence.

Example: IAS Saumya Pandey ^{had} cut her medical leaves during COVID.

Attitudes have a direct impact on our decision making. Civil servants are expected to have right political and moral attitude to have Nistha (dedication).

4. (b) "उद्देश्य (motive) का कार्रवाई की नैतिकता (morality of the action) से कोई लेना-देना नहीं है।" उपरोक्त कथन के प्रकाश में, क्या आपको लगता है कि किसी कार्रवाई की नैतिकता निर्धारित करने में उद्देश्य अप्रासंगिक है? प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ अपनी स्थिति स्पष्ट कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक
- "The motive has nothing to do with the morality of the action." In light of the above statement, do you think motive is irrelevant in determining the morality of an action? Explain your position with relevant examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Morality refers to knowing how we should live our lives to ensure well-being of all.

Motive i.e. intention behind a particular action is relevant according to me in determining morality of action:

① A good motive is the starting point of one's action. Person's actions are outcome of their motive.

Example: Motive to be useful to others (benevolent) engages one to promote welfare as seen in case of a civil servant who helped salt workers.

② Ahimsa of Mahatma Gandhi lays emphasis on not harming one even in thoughts. This stresses that an action has its source in motive.

③ Right motive usually results, in right consequences.

Example: Narges Mohammadi motive to help women in Iran against oppression.

④ Motive itself comes from the values that one possess. Since motive so it reflects the character of individual.

Example: Ninal Raghwan had motive of helping his village to recover from water scarcity.

Thus motive is relevant to understand the morality of active. It is possible that right motive may not always lead to right consequences but motive with strong values builds a strong character.

5. (a) जैन तीर्थंकरों के व्रत-आधारित नैतिक दर्शन (vow based moral philosophy) की समकालीन प्रासंगिकता की व्याख्या कीजिए। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

Explain the contemporary relevance of Jain Tirthankaras' vow-based moral philosophy.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Jain moral philosophy lays stress on vow - an oath or undertaking to act in all situations morally.

Relevance of vow in contemporary situations

① Vow to ^{protect} human dignity

↳ If countries, individuals take a vow to protect human dignity, the world will become a better place to live in. (Categorical Imperative)

Example: Israel-Palestine war shows no respect ~~for~~ for human dignity.

② Vow towards duty: Public servants

take a vow to promote welfare of citizens. Remaining committed to vow will help in & greater good

for greater numbers.

Example: Merk's head diverted his newly patented medicine for treating river blindness.

③ Vow to uphold values:

If all the citizens remain truthful to their values, the world will be united into a whole family (Vasudev Kutumbakam),

Vow to uphold values will ensure that benevolence, ~~and~~ compassion are practiced.

④ Vow not to engage in unethical practices:

This will prohibit civil servants / public servants to not engage in malpractices that harm public interest.

Vow is a supreme binding to our conscience. One must fulfill his vows for becoming trustworthy and reliable.

5. (b) अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संबंधों में आर्थिक प्रतिबंधों के उपयोग से कौन सी नैतिक दुविधाएँ उत्पन्न होती हैं, और नीति निर्माता इन चिंताओं को अवैध व्यवहारों को दंडित करने और राजनीतिक परिवर्तन को बाध्य करने की आवश्यकता के साथ कैसे संतुलित कर सकते हैं? (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

What ethical dilemmas arise from the use of economic sanctions in international relations, and how can policymakers balance these concerns with the need to punish illegal behaviours and compel political change? (Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

Economic sanctions have become a common tool to be used by powerful countries against the developing and least developed countries.

Ethical dilemmas

① Sovereignty of country vs threat of sanctions.

Example: USA's threat of economic sanctions if India engages with Iran for Chabahar Port.

② Respect for integrity and unity of nation state is compromised.

③ Affecting the decision making of country. Example: India stopped buying oil from Iran.

④ Also, such sanctions are bypassed and thus by engaging into illegal activities.
Example: Iran's support for Hezbollah.

Balance can be maintained

① By putting our stand clear.

Example: PM Modi urged that "We are not neutral, we are on the side of peace."

② Dialogue and deliberation.

Economic sanctions must be tackled to have ethical international relations.

वर्तमान समय में निम्नलिखित उद्धरणों की प्रासंगिकता पर चर्चा करें।

Discuss the relevance of the following quotes to the present times.

6. (a) "युद्ध मनुष्यों के मन में शुरू होते हैं, और उन मनों में, प्रेम और करुणा ने शांति की रक्षा का निर्माण किया होगा।"
(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"Wars begin in the minds of men, and in those minds, love and compassion would have built the defences of peace."
(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

* The quote emphasizes on the importance of right mindset and moral thinking.

It highlights that mind with strong moral attitude will work for love and compassion which is necessary to maintain peace culture. At the same, quote

reminds us that evil mindset and immoral values will lead to

~~preparit~~ preparation of war - i.e. conflict, exploitation.

Right mindset can be developed by having a strong conscience which will help in distinguishing right and wrong. It will be like a man's moral compass.

Purity of mind as highlighted in NEP is necessary to restrain one from indulging into immoral and unethical decision making.

Love and compassion will promote good and well-being of all making society a better place to live in.

Example: Kailash Satyarthi's Bachpan Bachao Andolan.

Moral attitude will help in navigating ethical dilemmas and promote tolerant and cohesive society.

6. (b) "आप अपना जीवन ऐसे जिएँ जैसे कि आपके कार्यों का सिद्धांत (उपउ व लवनत बजपवदे) सार्वभौमिक कानून बन जाए।"

(150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

"May you live your life as if the maxim of your actions were to become universal law."

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

The above quote signifies living a life which is ethical with strong interplay of human values and personal values.

Actions will become universal law if the actions are for the benefit of all. (Utilitarianism)

How to live such life?

① Strong moral commitment and moral conscientiousness will make our actions inspiration for others.

② Disengagement from egoism and practising altruism and minimalism (Dlogues)

Example : Vinobha Bhave's Bhoodan Movement.

③ Promoting and displaying values and compassion that set strong examples for others to emulate.

Example : Keerthi Talli during floods & interacted with citizens.

④ Courage to lead an ethical life despite opposition.

Example : Jeffrey Wigand whistleblowers tobacco tampering.

Therefore righteous conduct ensures that our actions become principles to be upheld by others for making society a better place to live in.

6. (c) आचरण का सुनहरा नियम (the golden rule of conduct) पारस्परिक सहिष्णुता (mutual toleration) है, यह देखते हुए कि हम सभी कभी एक जैसा नहीं सोचेंगे और हम हमेशा सत्य को टुकड़ों में देखेंगे और दृष्टि के विभिन्न दृष्टिकोण बनाएंगे। (150 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 10 अंक

The golden rule of conduct is mutual toleration, seeing that we will never all think alike and we shall always see Truth in fragment and form different angles of vision.

(Answer in 150 words) 10 Marks

'The highest result of education is tolerance' said Helen Keller. By this, she emphasized the importance of tolerance.

Tolerance can ^{be} promoted at three levels - society, state and individual.

Tolerance ensures that state does not interfere in the matters of faith.

At the society level, tolerance implies to respect minority rights and have a pluralistic attitude to promote cohesion.

At individual level, tolerance promotes respect and dignity for individuals.

Tolerance also promotes intellectual humility. It makes one aware of his biases and limitations. Also, it helps to make one open-minded by listening to other's viewpoints harmoniously. Tolerance keeps our ego in check.

The reality is multifaceted so a tolerant attitude ~~also~~ helps in understanding of a situation holistically.

Js Mills has rightly said, "If all but one has a difference, we must listen for truth can emerge from anywhere."

खण्ड-B / Section-B

7. आपने हाल ही में बीटा टेक्नोलॉजीज के सीईओ का पदभार संभाला है, जो 1990 में स्थापित भारत की एक प्रसिद्ध आईटी सेवा और परामर्श कंपनी है। पिछले तीन दशकों में, कंपनी उत्तरी अमेरिका, यूरोप और एशिया में ग्राहकों के साथ एक वैश्विक खिलाड़ी (global player) के रूप में विकसित हुई है। अत्याधुनिक समाधानों और मजबूत ग्राहक संबंधों के लिए जानी जाने वाली बीटा टेक्नोलॉजीज आईटी क्षेत्र में एक बाजार नेतृत्वकर्ता (मार्केट लीडर) रही है।

आपके कार्यभार संभाले तीन सप्ताह हो चुके हैं, और एक दिन, कंपनी के कानूनी प्रमुख आपके पास एक रिपोर्ट लेकर आए, जिसमें उन्होंने कंपनी के वित्तीय विवरण में विसंगतियों की खोज की थी।

पांच साल तक, कंपनी के वित्तीय अधिकारी (सीएफओ company's financial officer), श्री राहुल मेहता ने अपनी आय रिपोर्ट में हेरफेर किया है। राजस्व को बढ़ाकर और खर्चों को कम करके, उन्होंने स्टॉक की कीमतों को बढ़ाने और अधिक निवेश सुरक्षित करने के लिए वित्तीय स्वास्थ्य की एक झूठी छवि बनाई है।

इसके अलावा, यह पाया गया कि श्री मेहता ने कंपनी के कुछ विक्रेताओं (vendors) में महत्वपूर्ण व्यक्तिगत निवेश किया है। इन विक्रेताओं को आकर्षक अनुबंध दिए गए थे, जो अनुकूलित शर्तों और अक्सर बढ़ी हुई कीमतों पर थे और कंपनी के लिए हानिकारक थे। श्री मेहता के कार्यों ने खरीद प्रक्रिया को प्रभावित किया है और कंपनी को वित्तीय नुकसान पहुंचाया है।

सीईओ के रूप में, आपको एक महत्वपूर्ण निर्णय का सामना करना पड़ा। आपको वित्तीय अनियमितताओं और विषम खरीद प्रक्रिया से भी जूझना पड़ा।

नए सीईओ के रूप में:

- आपके पास कौन से निर्णय विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?
- उपरोक्त मामले में क्या मुद्दे शामिल हैं?
- आप किस तरह की कार्रवाई का विकल्प चुनेंगे और क्यों? (250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 20 अंक

You recently took over as CEO of Beta Technologies, a renowned IT services and consulting firm in India established in 1990. Over the past three decades, the company has grown into a global player with clients in North America, Europe, and Asia. Known for cutting-edge solutions and strong client relationships, Beta Technologies has been a market leader in the IT sector.

It has been three weeks since you took over, and one day, the company's legal head came to you with a report that they had discovered discrepancies in the company's financial statement.

For five years, the company's financial Officer (CFO), Mr. Rahul Mehta, has manipulated its earnings reports. By inflating revenues and understating expenses, he has created a false image of financial health to boost stock prices and secure more investment.

Further, it was found that Mr. Mehta has significant personal investments in some of the company's vendors. These vendors were awarded lucrative contracts, often at inflated prices and with favourable terms detrimental to the company. Mr Mehta's actions have compromised the procurement process and led to financial losses for the company.

As CEO, you were confronted with a critical decision. You also had to contend with financial irregularities and a skewed procurement process.

As a new CEO:

- What decision options are available to you?
- What are the issues involved in the above case?
- What will be your chosen course of action and Why? (Answer in 250 words) 20 marks

The above case study highlights the common issue ^{of malprocurement} observed in modern day practices of employees. It is indicative of poor work culture and abuse of authority.

(a) Decision options available to me

(i) Do not take any action and let the status quo remain.

(ii) Immediately take action against Mr. Rahul Meta and expose the financial irregularities.

(iii) Conduct an enquiry about the entire situation of financial irregularities and malprocurement practice.

(b) The issues involved

(i) Collusive ~~bid~~ bid rigging for

personal interests.

- ② Non-transparent procurement practices having detrimental impact on the company.
- ③ Company's image at stake in case of actual ^{financial} health exposure.
- ④ Public trust undermined to have benefits of personal interest.
- ⑤ Abuse of authority on part of Mr. Mehta to manipulate earnings.
- ⑥ Professional values vs Personal interest.
- ⑦ Lack of personal values like integrity, probity in Mr. Mehta.
- ⑧ Lack of accountability mechanisms.

© My chosen course of action would be to conduct an independent enquiry to know about all the manipulations taken place for the past five years. On the basis of enquiry report, I will take further action.

I have chosen this as:

① Objectivity and impartiality: Having enquiry ensures that a detailed report is prepared without having an influence of me or the company's legal head.

② ~~Chance~~ Principle of Natural Justice:
The enquiry will ensure that Mr. Mehta gets an opportunity to present his case and ^{give} remain accountability of his actions.

③ Also, sudden action and exposure to irregularities may dent company's reputation leading to losses.

'Commerce without Morality is a sin' and so one should not uphold values to disengage in such malpractices.



8. एक ऐसे जिले में जिला विकास अधिकारी (DDO) के रूप में, जो अपनी शुष्क परिस्थितियों के लिए जाना जाता है, पिछला वर्ष विशेष रूप से चुनौतीपूर्ण रहा है। बारिश न होने के कारण, इस क्षेत्र में पानी की भारी कमी का सामना करना पड़ा, जिससे कृषि में भारी गिरावट आई और भूख से मौतें हुईं। मेरी महत्वपूर्ण जिम्मेदारियों में से एक मध्याह्न भोजन योजना की निगरानी करना, यह सुनिश्चित करना शामिल है कि यह सुचारू रूप से चले और लक्षित लाभार्थियों - स्कूली बच्चों तक पहुँचे।

चल रहे संकट के बीच, मैंने तीन विशिष्ट ब्लॉकों में मध्याह्न भोजन योजना में एक विसंगति देखी। खाद्यान्न की खपत नामांकित छात्रों की संख्या से काफी अधिक थी। यह विसंगति लगभग एक महीने से लगातार बनी हुई थी, जिसने मुझे इस असामान्य पैटर्न के पीछे के कारणों का पता लगाने के लिए गहन जांच शुरू करने के लिए प्रेरित किया।

जांच में एक आश्चर्यजनक लेकिन दिल दहला देने वाली सच्चाई सामने आई। इन ब्लॉकों के गांव के स्कूल समुदाय में भूखे परिवारों को खिलाने के लिए अतिरिक्त खाद्यान्न का उपयोग कर रहे थे। यह अनधिकृत कार्रवाई, करुणा से प्रेरित होने के बावजूद, आधिकारिक तौर पर दंडनीय अपराध थी। स्कूल गंभीर भूख से पीड़ित लोगों को राहत प्रदान करने के लिए विशेष रूप से छात्रों के लिए निर्धारित संसाधनों को डायवर्ट कर रहे थे।

जैसे-जैसे स्थिति सामने आई, आप खुद को नैतिक दुविधा में पाते हैं। एक तरफ, डीडीओ के रूप में, मैं उन नियमों से बंध हुआ था जिनके तहत मुझे सरकारी संसाधनों का उचित उपयोग सुनिश्चित करना था। अपने नेक इरादे के बावजूद, खाद्यान्न का अनधिकृत डायवर्जन प्रोटोकॉल का उल्लंघन था जिसके लिए अनुशासनात्मक कार्रवाई की आवश्यकता थी, जिसमें शामिल स्कूल अधिकारियों का निलंबन भी शामिल था।

दूसरी ओर, इन स्कूल अधिकारियों की कार्रवाई मानवता और करुणा की गहरी भावना से प्रेरित थी। उन्होंने अपने समुदाय की तत्काल जरूरतों को प्राथमिकता देने का फैसला किया, गंभीर परिस्थितियों को पहचाना और आगे भूख से होने वाली मौतों को रोकने की तत्काल आवश्यकता को पहचाना। संकट के प्रति उनकी मानवीय प्रतिक्रिया के लिए उन्हें दंडित करना न केवल कठोर था, बल्कि सार्वजनिक सेवा की भावना के भी विपरीत था।

- उपरोक्त मामले में नैतिक मुद्दे क्या हैं?
- एक वक्ता के रूप में, आपके पास क्या विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?
- अपनी चुनी हुई कार्य-विधि के साथ-साथ अपने कारणों की व्याख्या कीजिए।
- उपरोक्त मामले को देखते हुए, मानवीय संकट की स्थितियों से निपटने के लिए सबसे अच्छा नैतिक सिद्धांत क्या होगा?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 20 अंक

As a District Development Officer (DDO) in a district known for its arid conditions, the past year has been particularly challenging. With rains failing to arrive, the region faced an acute water shortage, leading to a severe agricultural downturn and reported starvation deaths. One of my critical responsibilities includes supervising the mid-day meal scheme, ensuring that it runs smoothly and reaches the intended beneficiaries – schoolchildren.

Amidst the ongoing crisis, I observed an anomaly in the mid-day meal scheme in three specific blocks. The consumption of food grains was significantly higher than the number of students enrolled. This discrepancy had been persistent for about a month, prompting me to initiate a thorough inquiry to uncover the reasons behind the unusual pattern.

The investigation revealed a surprising yet heart-wrenching reality. The village schools in these blocks were using the extra food grains to feed starving families in the community. This unauthorised action, while driven by compassion, was officially a punishable offence. The schools were diverting resources intended exclusively for students to provide relief to those suffering from acute hunger.

As the situation unravelled, you found yourself in a moral quandary. On one hand, as the DDO, I was bound by regulations that required me to ensure the proper use of government resources. Despite its noble intent, the unauthorised diversion of food grains was a breach of protocol that necessitated disciplinary action, including the suspension of the school officials involved.

On the other hand, these school officials' actions were driven by a deep sense of humanity and compassion. They chose to prioritise the immediate needs of their community, recognising the dire circumstances and the urgent need to prevent further starvation deaths. Punishing them for their humane response to the crisis seemed not only harsh but also contrary to the spirit of public service.

- What are the ethical issues in the above case?
- As a DDO, what are the options available to you?
- Explain your chosen course of action, along with your reasons.
- Given the above case, what would be the best ethical theory for handling human distress situations?

(Answer in 250 words) 20 marks

The above case study highlights an ethical dilemma where compassion and official rules are at loggerheads.

Ethical issues involved

① Acute water shortage issue leading to death is against the capability approach.

② Compromise of human dignity as hunger is leading to deaths
(Against Kant's categorical imperative)

③ Professional responsibilities vs values

of compassion and empathy.

④ Punishment for humane response of teachers and school officials would set a wrong moral example where doing good with right moral intentions will take form of punishment.

⑤ Limited government resources requires right and fair allocation.

⑥ As a DDO, options available to me

① Immediately stop the resource diversion and punish the school officials involved.

② Do not take any action and let the resources remain diverted to feed starving families.

③ Write to higher authorities about the current ^{crisis} situation and take

permission for diversion of resources until another alternative is resolved to meet the crisis situation.

(c) I will go for third option. I would like to go with care approach in this situation as:

① It is my duty as a DDO to ensure that right to live with dignity is met (Article 21).

② Reverence for life as said by Schwitzers holds relevance for me.

③ Compassion towards hunger struck families is important ~~as~~ from humanity point of view.

④ School officials need not be punished but of course by writing to officials, I can ensure that protocol breach is mend.

⑤ Also, alternative solution will ~~so~~ help in mending the problem.

④ The best ethical theory for handling human distress situation is to perform those actions which promote ~~summum~~ ^{summum} bonnum - highest good for all. In the above case, temporary diversion ensures no human life is threatened because of hunger and starvation.

Care approach help in situations where special needs are espoused and one has to make a balance between rules and dedication to service.

9. एक शांतिपूर्ण जिले में पुलिस अधीक्षक (एसपी) के रूप में, मैं छोटी-मोटी चोरी, संपत्ति पर अतिक्रमण और छोटे-मोटे झगड़ों जैसे छोटे-मोटे अपराधों को संभालने का आदी था। अपराध दर कम थी और लोग आम तौर पर अपने काम से काम रखते थे, जिससे यह अपेक्षाकृत आसान कार्यस्थल बन गया। हालाँकि, पिछले महीने से, मेरे कार्यालय को एक अलग तरह की शिकायत मिलनी शुरू हो गई, जो समुदाय में एक अधिक जटिल मुद्दे को जन्म दे रही थी।

ग्रामीणों से बड़ी संख्या में शिकायतें प्राप्त हुईं, जिन्होंने बताया कि उनकी जानकारी के बिना उनके बैंक खातों से पैसे गायब हो गए। ये शिकायतें चिंताजनक थीं, खासकर इसलिए क्योंकि वे ऐसे जनसांख्यिकीय समूह से आए थे जो काफी हद तक अशिक्षित और आधुनिक बैंकिंग प्रथाओं से अपरिचित थे। ग्रामीण भ्रमित और व्याकुल थे, उन्हें समझ में नहीं आ रहा था कि उनकी मेहनत की कमाई कैसे गायब हो रही है।

प्रारंभिक जाँच करने पर, हमें पता चला कि पैसे वास्तव में चोरी नहीं हो रहे थे, बल्कि राज्य सरकार की बीमा योजना के तहत पॉलिसियों के लिए बीमा प्रीमियम के रूप में काटे जा रहे थे। ग्रामीणों को इस बात की जानकारी ही नहीं थी कि उन्होंने ऐसी पॉलिसियों के लिए साइन अप भी किया था, जिससे इन लेन-देन की वैधता पर संदेह पैदा हो गया।

गहन जांच से पता चला कि सरकारी बैंकों के एजेंट बीमा योजना को आक्रामक तरीके से आगे बढ़ा रहे थे। इन एजेंटों को योजना के लिए सरकारी लक्ष्यों को पूरा करने का निर्देश दिया गया था, जिसके कारण वे उचित सहमति के बिना लाभार्थियों को जोड़ रहे थे। अधिकांश ग्रामीण अशिक्षित थे और उन्हें उन बीमा पॉलिसियों की कोई समझ नहीं थी, जिनमें वे नामांकित थे। कटौती कानूनी थी, लेकिन ग्रामीणों की सहमति प्राप्त करने के लिए इस्तेमाल किए गए तरीके अत्यधिक सदिग्ध थे। आप कार्रवाई के तरीके के बारे में सोच रहे थे, क्योंकि कटौती कानूनी थी, और एजेंट तकनीकी रूप से निर्देशों का पालन कर रहे थे। लेकिन, इस प्रक्रिया में, वे गरीब ग्रामीणों का शोषण कर रहे थे।

- उपरोक्त मामले में नैतिक मुद्दे क्या हैं?
- एक एसपी के रूप में आपके पास क्या विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?
- अपनी चुनी हुई कार्रवाई के तरीके की व्याख्या कीजिए।
- यदि आपको बीमा योजना को बढ़ावा देने का कोई बेहतर तरीका सुझाना हो, तो वह क्या होगा?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 20 अंक

As the Superintendent of Police (SP) in a peaceful district, I was accustomed to handling minor crimes such as petty thefts, property encroachments, and small fights. The crime rate was low, and the people generally kept to their business, making it a relatively easy workplace. However, over the past month, my office began receiving a different kind of grievance that indicated a more complex issue brewing in the community.

A significant number of complaints were received from villagers who reported losing money from their bank accounts without their knowledge. These grievances were alarming, especially since they came from a demographic that was largely illiterate and unfamiliar with modern banking practices. The villagers were confused and distraught, not understanding how their hard-earned money was disappearing.

Upon conducting a preliminary enquiry, we discovered that the money was not exactly being stolen but was being deducted as insurance premiums for policies under the State Government's Bima Yojna. The villagers were unaware that they had even signed up for such policies, raising suspensions about the legitimacy of these transactions.

A deeper investigation revealed that agents from government banks were aggressively pushing the Bima Yojna. These agents had been instructed to meet government targets for the scheme, leading them to add beneficiaries without proper consent. Most of the villagers were illiterate and had no understanding of the insurance policies they were enrolled in. The deductions were legal, but the methods used to obtain the villagers' consent were highly questionable.

You were wondering about the course of action, as the deductions were legal, and the agents were technically following instructions. But, in the process, they were exploiting the poor villagers.

- What are the ethical issues involved in the above case?
- What are the options available to you as an SP?
- Explain your chosen course of an action.
- If you have to recommend a better way of promoting the bima yojna, what would that be?

(Answer in 250 words) 20 marks

① The above case study highlights the wrong means used by the government in order to achieve the policy targets.

② Ethical issues involved

① Digital illiteracy on part of villagers is shows the gaps in education policies.

② Wrong means to achieve right ends (Against Kant's categorical imperative).

③ Humans as means as they are not even asked to give consent for their decision. to

(4) Lack of reach of modern banking practices in rural areas limits their awareness to know about such schemes.

(b) Options available to me as an SP

(1) Stop the agents to push the citizens to forcefully engage them in Bima Yojana.

(2) Let the agents continue their work as government has to meet the targets

(3) Conduct a small training session to inform and explain villagers about the benefits of Bima Yojana. Also, I would conduct assessment to know the volunteers for Bima Yojana

(4) Help in attaining digital literacy in the long run.

© I will go with options 3 and 4. In the short run, I will explain the pros of Beema Yojana to villagers as:

→ It is a scheme to insure farmers against sudden crop loss, and so I will explain them that it is in their own benefit.

→ At the time, I would ensure that only volunteers agree to it.

No one should be forced into scheme.

→ My long run vision will be to promote digital literacy among the citizens as it increases the capability of villagers to deal with modern day realities.

(d) Better way to promote Bima Yojana :

- ① Conduct campaigns to make villagers aware of the pros and cons of policy.
- ② Assessment of lands of villagers to ~~to~~ make them aware of risk.
- ③ Establishment of service centres where villagers can engage in such policies.

Policies are for the welfare of people. Its implementation in an effective way is the need of the hour.

10. पिछले पाँच वर्षों से जल आपूर्ति विभाग में एक जूनियर इंजीनियर के रूप में, मेरी जिम्मेदारियों में पानी की गुणवत्ता सुनिश्चित करना और नियमित वितरण के लिए आपूर्ति लाइनों को बनाए रखना शामिल था। जिस जोन में मैं तैनात था, वहाँ लगातार पानी की कमी की समस्या थी, खास तौर पर गर्मियों के दौरान जब आपूर्ति अनियमित हो जाती थी। निवासियों को पानी के टैंकों पर बहुत ज्यादा निर्भर रहना पड़ता था, जिससे उनका वित्तीय बोझ और असुविधा बढ़ जाती थी।

पिछले कुछ सालों में, मैंने देखा है कि पानी की आपूर्ति में व्यवधान सिर्फ तकनीकी समस्याओं या प्राकृतिक कमी के कारण नहीं थे। सावधानीपूर्वक निगरानी और डेटा संग्रह के जरिए, मैंने ऐसे सबूत खोजे जो बताते थे कि टैंकर मालिकों का एक गिरोह जानबूझकर कृत्रिम कमी पैदा कर रहा था। यह गिरोह पानी की आपूर्ति लाइनों से छेड़छाड़ करता था, जिससे व्यवधान पैदा होता था और फिर बढ़े हुए दामों पर पानी बेचकर स्थिति का फायदा उठाता था। इस गिरोह की गतिविधियाँ न केवल अवैध थीं, बल्कि बेहद अनैतिक भी थीं, जो निवासियों को पानी की बुनियादी जरूरत का शोषण करती थीं।

अपने पास पर्याप्त सबूत होने के बाद, मैंने गिरोह के खिलाफ कार्रवाई करने का फैसला किया। मैंने जिले के पुलिस अधीक्षक (एसपी) से मुलाकात की और अपने निष्कर्ष प्रस्तुत किए। एसपी चिंतित दिखे और उन्होंने दोषियों के खिलाफ कार्रवाई शुरू करने का वादा किया। हालाँकि, दो हफ्ते बीत जाने के बाद भी कोई उल्लेखनीय कार्रवाई नहीं की गई। निराशा और दृढ़ निश्चयी होकर, मैंने देरी को समझने के लिए एसपी के साथ एक और बैठक निर्धारित की।

हमारी मुलाकात के दौरान, एसपी ने स्थिति को स्पष्ट रूप से समझाया। उन्होंने समस्या और मेरे साक्ष्य की वैधता को स्वीकार किया, लेकिन कार्टेल के मजबूत राजनीतिक संबंधों और प्रभाव के कारण कार्रवाई करने में अपनी असमर्थता व्यक्त की। अगर वे ऐसे शक्तिशाली हितों के खिलाफ गए तो उन्हें अपने लोगों की सुरक्षा और अपने करियर पर संभावित नतीजों का डर था। इस रहस्योद्घाटन ने मुझे मुश्किल स्थिति में डाल दिया, क्योंकि मैं एसपी की मजबूरी को समझता था, लेकिन समुदाय की खातिर इस मुद्दे को संबोधित करने की गहरी जिम्मेदारी भी महसूस करता था।

- उपरोक्त स्थिति में आपके पास क्या विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?
- आप किस तरह की कार्रवाई चुनेंगे?
- मामले में शामिल नैतिक मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए।
- लोगों की जरूरतों का फायदा उठाने वाले कार्टेल से निपटने के लिए कुछ उपाय सुझाएँ।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 20 अंक

As a junior engineer in the Department of Water Supply for the past five years, my responsibilities included ensuring water quality and maintaining supply lines for regular distribution. The zone I was posted in had persistent water shortage issues, particularly exacerbated during the summer when the supply became erratic. Residents had to rely heavily on water tankers, which added to their financial burden and inconvenience.

Over the years, I observed that the disruptions in water supply were not merely due to technical issues or natural scarcity. Through careful monitoring and data collection, I uncovered evidence suggesting that a cartel of tanker owners was deliberately creating an artificial shortage. This cartel would tamper with the water supply lines, causing disruptions, and then capitalise on the situation by selling water at inflated prices. The activities of this cartel were not only illegal but also highly unethical, exploiting the residents' basic need for water.

With substantial evidence in hand, I decided to take action against the cartel. I met with the district Superintendent of Police (SP) and presented my findings. The SP appeared concerned and promised to initiate action against the culprits. However, two weeks passed without any noticeable action being taken. Frustrated and determined, I scheduled another meeting with the SP to understand the delay.

During our meeting, the SP candidly explained the situation. He acknowledged the problem and the validity of my evidence but expressed his inability to act due to the cartel's strong political connections

and influence. He feared for the safety of his men and the potential repercussions on his career if he went against such powerful interests. This revelation left me in a difficult position, as I understood the SP's predicament but also felt a deep responsibility to address the issue for the sake of the community.

- What are the options available to you in the above situation?
- What will be your chosen course of action?
- Identify the ethical issues involved in the case
- Suggest some measures for handling cartels who prey on people's needs.

(Answer in 250 words) 20 marks

① The case study shows the use of humans to fulfill the notions of profiteering - a grave ethical breach.

Options available to me

① Status quo: After understanding the SP's position, I would remain silent and let the exploitation happen.

② Take action by exposing the cartel using evidence that I received.

③ Engage civil society and social media to expose corrupt practices of political tank owners.

(b) My chosen course of action will be to engage civil society. I would unfold the corrupt and inhumane practices of cartels to accomplish their selfish interest.

This will help in coming out with a better solution as civil society and such organisation can influence political authorities to take action.

(c) Ethical issues involved in the case

(i) Humane as means used by cartels. The basic needs of citizens - essential for sustaining life are being capitalised.

- ② Egoism on part of cartels or
(against minimalism of Diogenes)
- ③ Political influences with cartel
leads to bureaucrats not being
able to work efficiently
- ④ Career issues at stake (Politicisation
of bureaucracy)
- ⑤ Water shortage against capability
approach of Amartya Sen
- ⑥ Responsibility of public servants
to promote well-being

(a) Actions for handling cartels

① Strict legal framework :

Punishments to deter cartel from
engaging into such unethical practices.

② More powers to bureaucrats to take ~~etc~~ decisions independently without undue influence of politics.

③ Strong political commitment and bureaucratic ~~to~~ attitude to go out of the way to fulfill people's needs

④ Regular social audit of different services provided for survival.

Human needs when fulfilled help in leading a healthy life. ~~or~~
A sound mind dwells in healthy body.

11.

AquaTech एक सरकारी रक्षा अनुबंध फर्म (government defence contracting firm) है जो पुलिस और सैन्य उपयोग के लिए रोबोटिक सिस्टम बनाने में माहिर है। यह बम-निष्क्रिय करने वाले रोबोट बनाने और अन्य वर्गीकृत परियोजनाओं पर काम करने के लिए जानी जाती है। एक महत्वपूर्ण परियोजना में एक रोबोट विकसित करना शामिल था जो बारूदी सुरंगों को साफ करने और छिपे हुए विस्फोटकों का पता लगाने में सक्षम हो। रक्षा मंत्रालय के शीर्ष अधिकारियों के समक्ष परियोजना प्रदर्शन के लिए एक कार्यशील प्रोटोटाइप तैयार करने हेतु सात महीने की कठोर समय सीमा थी।

कर्मचारियों की कमी और अन्य अप्रत्याशित मुद्दों के कारण परियोजना में देरी हुई, जिसके परिणामस्वरूप दो सप्ताह की देरी हुई। जैसे-जैसे समय सीमा नजदीक आती गई, परियोजना के नेता ने टीम पर कम से कम आराम के साथ लंबे समय तक काम करने का दबाव डाला। इन चुनौतियों के बावजूद, टीम प्रदर्शन के लिए समय पर प्रोटोटाइप पूरा करने में कामयाब रही।

प्रदर्शन के दौरान, रोबोट को खदानों का पता लगाने और उन्हें स्प्रे से चिह्नित करने के लिए एक सक्रिय बारूदी सुरंग में तैनात किया गया था। शुरुआत में, रोबोट ने उम्मीद के मुताबिक प्रदर्शन किया, खदानों की पहचान की। हालांकि, साइटों को चिह्नित करने के बजाय, इसने विस्फोटों को ट्रिगर किया, जिससे ऑपरेटिंग इंजीनियर को घातक चोटें आईं। प्रदर्शन को तुरंत रोक दिया गया, और जांच शुरू की गई।

जांच में पता चला कि सॉफ्टवेयर में खामी के कारण यह खराबी हुई, जिससे यह दुखद दुर्घटना हुई। सॉफ्टवेयर डेवलपमेंट टीम ने तर्क दिया कि ऑपरेटर ने मिश्रित आदेश जारी किए, जिससे यह खराबी हुई। कुल मिलाकर, प्रत्येक टीम जिम्मेदारी से बचती रही, लेकिन घातक त्रुटियों के लिए किसी न किसी टीम को जवाबदेह बनाया जाना था।

- (a) यदि आप एक्वाटेक के नैतिकता अधिकारी हैं, तो आप इस घातक दुर्घटना के लिए किसे जिम्मेदार ठहराएंगे? क्यों?
- (b) आर्टिफिशियल इंटेलिजेंस का उपयोग करते समय उत्पन्न होने वाले कुछ सामान्य नैतिक मुद्दों पर चर्चा करें।

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 20 अंक

AquaTech is a government defence contracting firm specialising in manufacturing robotic systems for police and military use. It is known for producing bomb-defusing robots and working on other classified projects. One critical project involved developing a robot capable of sweeping minefields and detecting hidden explosives. The project had a stringent seven-month deadline to produce a working prototype for a demonstration to top defence ministry officials.

The project encountered delays due to staff shortages and other unforeseen issues, resulting in a two-week lag. As the deadline loomed, the project leader pressured the team to work extended hours with minimal rest. Despite these challenges, the team managed to complete the prototype on time for the demonstration.

During the demonstration, the robot was deployed in an active minefield to detect mines and mark them with a spray. Initially, the robot performed as expected, identifying mines. However, instead of marking the sites, it triggered explosions, causing fatal injuries to the operating engineer. The demonstration was immediately halted, and an inquiry was launched.

The investigation revealed that a software flaw caused the malfunction, leading to the tragic accident. The software development team argued that the operator issued mixed commands, which contributed to the malfunction. Overall, each team kept deflecting responsibility, but somebody or a team had to be made accountable for the fatal errors.

- (a) If you are the ethics officer of AquaTech enquiring, who will you hold responsible for the fatality? Why?
- (b) Discuss some common ethical issues that arise while using artificial intelligence.

(Answer in 250 words) 20 marks

The case study highlights the potential threats of the advancing technologies like Artificial intelligence. Also, it shows lack of accountability within Departments.

① The Operating Team, as well as software development team are liable for the fatality. The Project leader ~~is~~ ~~who~~, however, is holds the biggest responsibility as :

① As highlighted, the leader continued to pressure the team which is indicative of poor work culture. The workers' efficiency had reduced with minimal rest.

② Lack of staff shortage was not taken care of.

③ The absence of proper chain of

command without proper discussions between operating team and software development led to the fatality.

A Project leader is responsible to maintain effective coordination between different departments and so he holds responsibility -

(b) Common ethical issues of AI

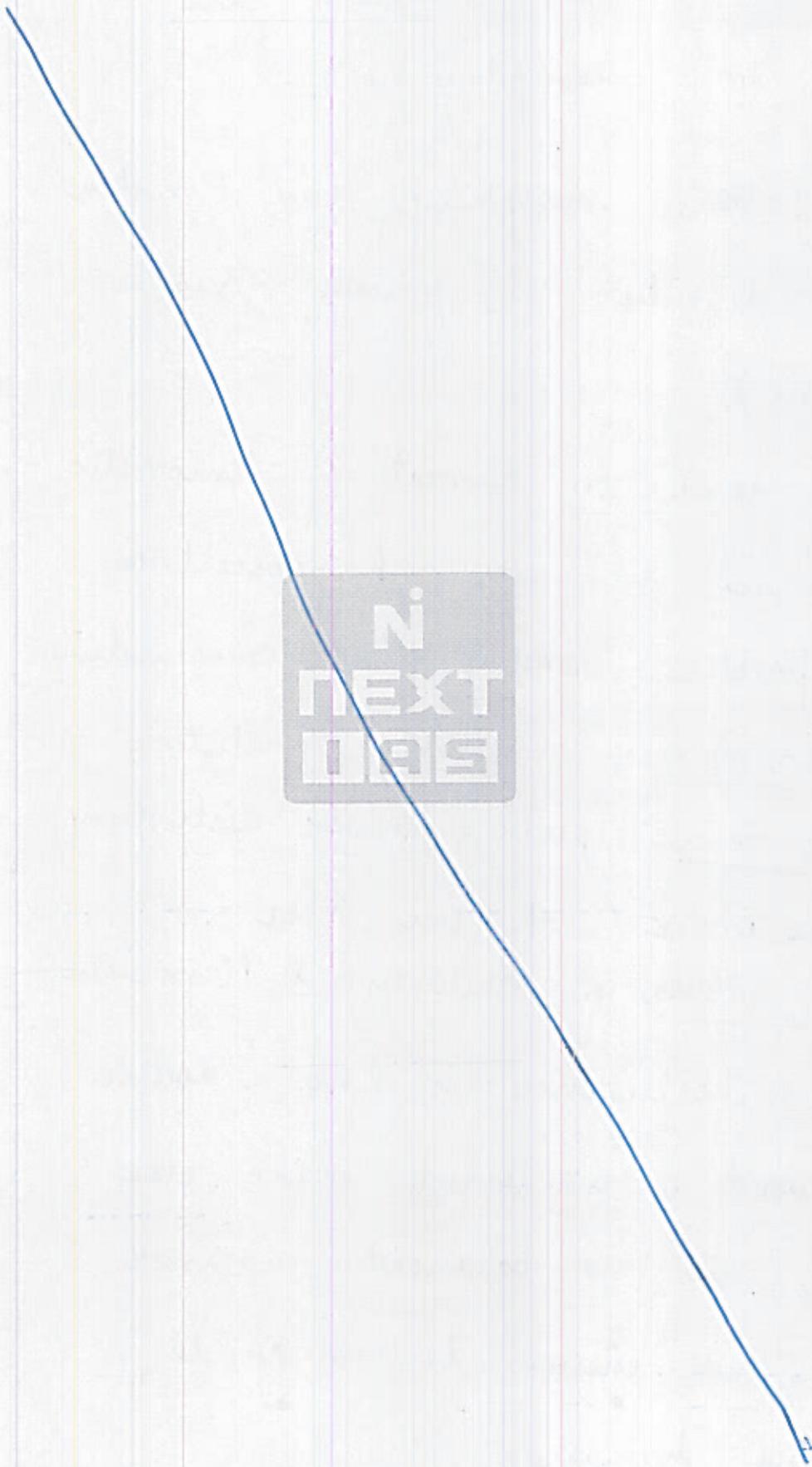
① Threat to privacy : Nano UAV drones can put the entire human life under surveillance thus threatening privacy.

② Threat of security : Security breaches can become easy with AI.

Example : Stuxnet by USA.

- ③ Can take up human jobs leading to unemployment.
- ④ Deepfakes, morphing can threaten human dignity (against Kant's imperative).
- ⑤ Can lead to threat of democratic elections as it can result in fake speeches leading to communalism too. Example: Cambridge Analytica
- ⑥ Fake news / paid news disturbing law and order of an area.
- ⑦ Lack of values in children ex: Plagiarism
- Artificial intelligence is like a double edged sword. We must make use of AI in a balanced manner so that we ensure technology do not control humans.

Candidates must not write on this margin



12. आदिवासी गांवों के वर्चस्व वाले जिले में जिला विकास अधिकारी (DDO) के रूप में तैनात होने के बाद, मैंने क्षेत्र की विशिष्ट समस्याओं को समझने के लिए सभी ब्लॉक विकास अधिकारियों (BDO) से मुलाकात की। पहचाने गए प्राथमिक मुद्दे पानी की कमी, खराब शैक्षिक बुनियादी ढाँचा, मध्याह्न भोजन योजना में अनियमितताएँ और सड़कों का न होना थे। सीमित बजट के साथ, मैंने इन दबाव वाली समस्याओं के समाधान की योजना बनाना शुरू कर दिया।

BDO की बैठक के कुछ सप्ताह बाद, मैंने पुलिस अधीक्षक (SP) के कार्यालय का शिष्टाचार दौरा किया। हमारी सौहार्दपूर्ण बातचीत के दौरान, एसपी ने जादू-टोना से संबंधित अपराधों का जिक्र किया, जिससे मुझे आश्चर्य हुआ क्योंकि किसी भी बीडीओ ने इस मुद्दे को नहीं उठाया था। मेरी चिंता यह जानकर बढ़ गई कि इन अपराधों की ज्यादातर पीड़ित महिलाएँ थीं।

एक हफ्ते बाद, नियमित निरीक्षण के लिए एक ब्लॉक का दौरा करते समय, मैं स्कूल के शिक्षकों, आशा कार्यकर्ताओं और स्वयं सहायता समूहों (एसएचजी) की महिला बुजुर्गों से मिला। चर्चाओं के माध्यम से, मुझे पता चला कि जादू-टोना समुदाय में गहरी जड़ें जमाए हुए हैं। आशा कार्यकर्ताओं ने लगभग हर महीने घटनाओं की सूचना दी, हालाँकि आधिकारिक तौर पर कोई भी दर्ज नहीं की गई।

स्थिति की गंभीरता को समझते हुए, मैंने जादू-टोना से संबंधित अंधविश्वासों से निपटने के लिए विकास निधि का एक हिस्सा आवंटित करने का फैसला किया। स्थानीय गैर सरकारी संगठनों और एसएचजी ने पहल का स्वागत किया, लेकिन दो हफ्ते बाद, आपको एक आरटीआई मिली जिसमें शिक्षा, सड़क और पानी की आपूर्ति जैसे महत्वपूर्ण क्षेत्रों की कीमत पर जादू-टोना से संबंधित मुद्दों के लिए धन आवंटित करने के लिए स्पष्टीकरण मांगा गया था।

- उपरोक्त मामले में क्या मुद्दे शामिल हैं?
- आपके पास सीमित बजट होने के बावजूद, आपने जादू-टोना से संबंधित अंधविश्वासों से निपटने के लिए धन आवंटित करने का फैसला किया। आप समुदाय और हितधारकों के समक्ष अपने निर्णय को कैसे उचित ठहराएंगे?
- यह देखते हुए कि जादू-टोना से संबंधित अपराधों की शुरुआत में बीडीओ द्वारा रिपोर्ट नहीं की गई थी, आप इस संचार की कमी को कैसे दूर करेंगे और कैसे आगे चलकर बेहतर रिपोर्टिंग और पारदर्शिता सुनिश्चित करेंगे?

(250 शब्दों में उत्तर दीजिए) 20 अंक

After being posted as the District Development Officer (DDO) in a district dominated by tribal villages, I met with all the Block Development Officers (BDOs) to understand the region's specific problems. The primary issues identified were water scarcity, poor educational infrastructure, irregularities in the midday meal scheme, and non-existent roads. With a limited budget, I began planning solutions for these pressing problems.

A few weeks after the BDOs meeting, I made a courtesy visit to the Superintendent of Police's (SP) office. During our cordial conversation, the SP mentioned witchcraft-related crimes, which surprised me as none of the BDOs had brought it up. My concern grew knowing that most victims of these crimes were women.

A week later, while visiting a block for a routine inspection, I met with school teachers, ASHA workers, and women elders from Self-Help Groups (SHGs). Through discussions, I learned that witchcraft had deep roots in the community. ASHA workers reported incidents almost every month, though none were officially recorded.

Realising the gravity of the situation, I decided to allocate part of the development funds to tackle witchcraft-related superstitions. Local NGOs and SHGs welcomed the initiative, but two weeks later, you received an RTI wanting an explanation for allocating funds for witchcraft-related issues at the cost of critical areas like education, roads, and water supply.

- (a) What are the issues involved in the above case?
- (b) With a limited budget at your disposal, you decide to allocate funds to tackle witchcraft-related superstitions. How would you justify your decision to the community and stakeholders?
- (c) Given that witchcraft-related crimes were not initially reported by the BDOs, how would you address this lack of communication and ensure better reporting and transparency moving forward?

(Answer in 250 words) 20 marks

The case study highlights the issue of limited budgetary allocations leading to inefficiencies in administration and infrastructure. Also, it ~~highly~~ throws light on superstitions and dogmas of witchcraft.

(a) Issues involved in the above case

① Traditions and superstitions compromising women's life (against human dignity).

② Lack of infrastructure and basic necessities in tribal villages.

③ Limited budget in tribal areas hindering growth and development.

- ④ Patriarchal mindset prevalent among the villagers.
- ⑤ BDO not highlighting the witchcraft activities. ~~so they not~~
- ⑥ No official recording of crimes related to witchcraft.
- ⑦ RTI to explain the diversion of resources towards superstitions.

⑥ Justification of my decision

① Equality : Women are being discriminated and victims of such superstitions which is against equality (Article 14).

② Rationality :

Superstitions hold no significance in current rational society.

③ Gender ^{bias} attitude needs to be changed to ensure that women too have capability to lead a good life.

④ Mere superstitions cannot lead to compromising human dignity.

~~⑤ Women are~~

⑤ Compassion and care required to solve complex traditional mentalities.

⑥ Addressing lack of communication can be done:

① Bottom up approach: Ensure that engagement is done with local tribal people along with meetings with BDOs.

② Women participation in offices to ensure all matters and concerns

are reported fairly.

③ Active interaction with SHGs and AASHA workers to get ~~to~~ detailed and holistic information.

Superstitions like witchcraft holds no relevance. They must be rooted out to promote well-being of all.



NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

Space for Rough Work

NEXT IAS

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CANDIDATES SHOULD READ THE UNDERMENTIONED INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY. VIOLATION OF ANY OF THE INSTRUCTIONS MAY LEAD TO PENALTY.

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1. Do not write your name or registration no. anywhere inside this Question-cum-Answer Booklet.
2. Do not write anything other than the actual answers to the questions anywhere inside your QCA Booklet.
3. Do not tear off any pages from your QCA Booklet, if you find any page missing do not fail to notify the supervisor/invigilator.
4. Do not leave behind your QCA Booklet on your table unattended, it should be handed over to the invigilator after conclusion of the exam.

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1. Read the Instructions on the cover page and strictly follow them.
2. Write your registration number and other particulars, in the space provided on the cover of QCA Booklet.
3. Write legibly and neatly. Do not write in bad/illegible handwritings.
4. For rough notes or calculation, the last two blank pages of this booklet should be used. The rough notes should be crossed through afterwards.
5. If you wish to cancel any work, draw your pen through it or write "Cancelled" across it, otherwise it may be evaluated.
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महत्वपूर्ण निर्देश

अभ्यर्थियों को निम्नलिखित निर्देशों को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ना चाहिए। किसी भी निर्देश का उल्लंघन करने पर दण्डित किया जा सकता है।

क्या न करें-

1. इस प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका के भीतर कहीं भी अपना नाम या पंजीकरण संख्या न लिखें।
2. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका में कहीं भी प्रश्नों के वास्तविक उत्तरों के अलावा कुछ भी न लिखें।
3. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका से कोई भी पृष्ठ न फाड़ें, यदि आपको कोई पृष्ठ गायब लगे, तो पर्यवेक्षक/निरीक्षक को सूचित करना न भूलें।
4. अपनी QCA पुस्तिका को अपनी टेबल पर न छोड़ें, परीक्षा समाप्त होने के पश्चात इसे निरीक्षक को सौंप देना चाहिए।

क्या करें-

1. कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए निर्देशों को ध्यान पूर्वक पढ़ें और उनका सख्ती से पालन करें।
2. QCA पुस्तिका के कवर पृष्ठ पर दिए गए स्थान पर अपना पंजीकरण नंबर और अन्य विवरण लिखें।
3. स्पष्ट और पठनीय तरीके से लिखें। खराब/अपठनीय लिखावट में न लिखें।
4. रफ नोट्स या गणना के लिए, इस पुस्तिका के अंतिम दो खाली पृष्ठों का उपयोग किया जाना चाहिए। रफ नोट्स को बाद में क्रॉस कर देना चाहिए।
5. यदि आप किसी कार्य को रद्द करना चाहते हैं, तो उस पर अपना पेन चलाएं या उस पर "रद्द" लिखें, अन्यथा उसका मूल्यांकन किया जा सकता है।
6. परीक्षा हॉल छोड़ने से पहले अपनी QCA पुस्तिका व्यक्तिगत रूप से निरीक्षक को सौंप दें।

ऑनलाइन सुविधा का लाभ उठाने वाले अभ्यर्थियों के लिए विशेष अनुरोध

1. QCA पुस्तिका को ठीक से स्कैन करें। हम चाहेंगे कि आप स्कैनिंग के लिए कैमस्कैनर ऐप (CAM SCANNER) का प्रयोग करें। (यह कोई प्रमोशन नहीं है)।
2. कृपया QCA पुस्तिका को पर्याप्त रोशनी में स्कैन करें। कम रोशनी में स्कैन की गई पुस्तिकाएं, उनके मूल्यांकन की गुणवत्ता को बाधित कर सकती हैं।
3. स्कैन के दौरान छाया वाले किसी भी पृष्ठ/पीडीएफ को फिर से स्कैन किया जाना चाहिए। कृपया सुनिश्चित करें कि आपके द्वारा अपलोड की गई पीडीएफ यथा संभव स्पष्ट हो।
4. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को अपना विवरण पहले पृष्ठ पर देना चाहिए और मैक्रो टिप्पणियों के लिए अगला पृष्ठ खाली छोड़ दें। यह समझना चाहिए कि उत्तर स्कैन की गई पीडीएफ में पृष्ठ नंबर 3 से शुरू होना चाहिए।
5. QCA पुस्तिका का उपयोग नहीं करने वाले उम्मीदवारों को प्रश्नपत्र के अनुसार उत्तर के अनुक्रम का पालन करना चाहिए।
6. कृपया स्कैन किए गए संस्करण में उत्तर के अनुक्रम और कुल पृष्ठों की संख्या की जाँच करें। सुनिश्चित करें कि यह उसी के भौतिक संस्करण के अनुरूप है।

