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प्रश्न संख्या
(Question No.)

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A2 - Sure shot Mains 2025 -
FLT

Student Id : 1870978

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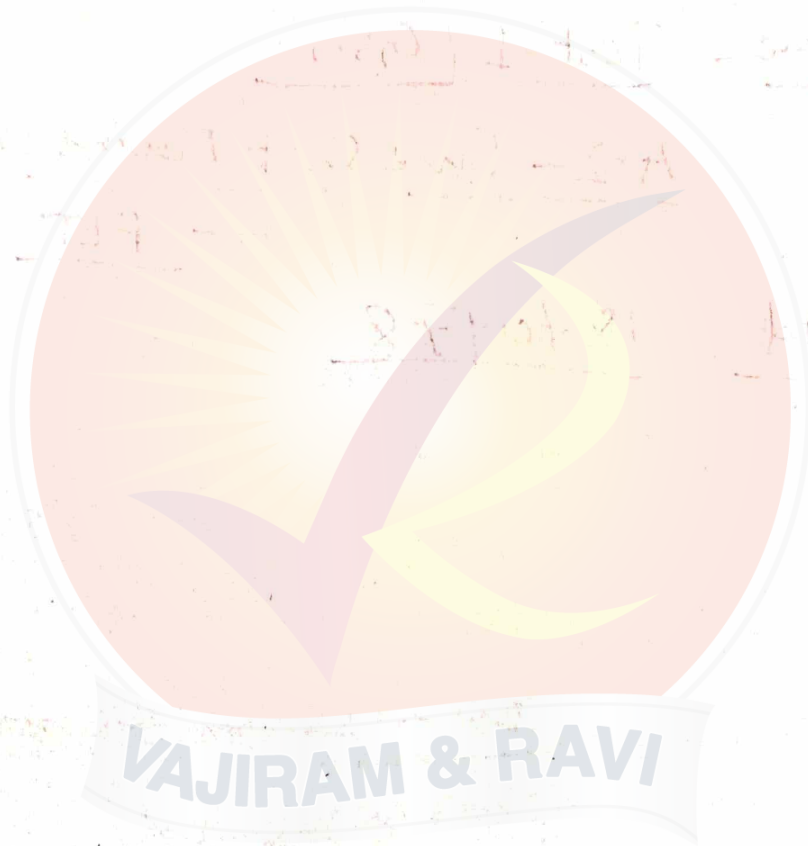
UPSE CSE 2025

AIR - 645

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①
a)

Ethical Governance involves strong adherence to values like Integrity, impartiality & non-partisanship, seen in harmonious relation

Interdependence of these values -

1) Integrity without impartiality will lead to biasness & unfair judgement

eg) Tilt towards particular candidate during interview process due to caste, religion factor.

2) Integrity without impartiality will distort strong moral base.

eg) Aristotle - treating equals unequally is injustice

3) Integrity without non-partisanship will affect constitutional morality

of non-discrimination & equality
below law (Article 14)

4) Integrity without non-partisanship
will affect the fairness & objectivity
of public services

eg Situation of allegiance to party
rather Constitution & people of
India.

Unity of three values -

1) Honesty along with fairness &
non-allegiance to any party
↳ achieves conditional Morality

2) Objective & just decisions.

3) Weeds out corrupt tendencies.

Ethical training in these values (11th
ARC) and recognising the complex
interdependence of them is the way ahead

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6) Ethics provides a principled framework in guiding right & wrong in human conduct/actions

Essence of ethics: balance between Individual autonomy & societal norms:

- 1) Incentivises human's freedom & rights \Rightarrow necessary for innovation, happiness (Rousseau)
- 2) Individual autonomy concies to realise one's essence & potential
- 3) Adhering to societal norms - values, practices, traditions, necessary for balanced coexistence
- 4) Balancing both \Rightarrow creates harmonious society - peace, justice
 \hookrightarrow negates tendencies of social

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evils, communalism, protests, etc.
↳ prevents revolutionary tendencies
& conflicts

Ethical frameworks: Reconcile both.

① Kant's deontological framework -
Recognises human dignity & social
nature of men ⇒ balancing both
leads to perpetual peace

② Aristotle's virtue ethics:
→ enhancing individual's virtues
leads to harmonious social existence

③ Rawls' Justice framework
→ protects individual autonomy along
with need for helping least
advantaged section of society.

④ Gandhi's trusteeship & Jaijamen
- donating surplus to society &
helping poorest of poor.

Harmonious society is rooted in ethical
framework which balances both.

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2) a) Conscience can be defined as an inner voice of right or wrong in a given situation.

Conscience: Universal moral compass:-

1) Recognises universal values of courage, bravery.

eg Inner conscience of all respects bravery of a man saving drowning child.

2) Conscience tells one to act fairly — an intuitive Moral sense

eg Not to steal, hurt others, etc.

3) Universal moral compass created situation of social coexistence

eg people making strayers for helping hand.

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However, despite being an inner voice seems intuitive, it is shaped by society & upbringing.

1) Family values & schooling - Respecting everyone irrespective of status, tolerance, etc.

(eg) Such values will not allow our conscience to demean someone

2) Professional role - Sometimes professions demand suppressing conscience

(eg) Lawyer defending criminal -
out of duty

3) Upbringing - Someone grew seeing his father normalising corrupt practices

↳ In such cases, his conscience may be suppressed in doing corruption

Gandhiji rightly held that there is no court higher than court of justice -
court of conscience.

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b) Ancient Indian philosophy teaches us numerous ethical principles, acknowledged by scholars like William Dalrymple.

Ethical principles rooted in Ancient India
guide us in balancing development
with sustainability.

1) Jainism principle of soul - posesses by all - animate, inanimate object.

↳ Guides us in conservation,
ecological harmony.

2) Buddha's concept of Moderation & Compassion

↳ Guides against mindless consumption

3) Ashoka's Dhamma - inculcates service mentality & tolerance.

eg) Respecting tribal rights & ecological balance.

4) Veda's ^{Period} practice of worshipping Nature 'Gods like Indra, Agni'

↳ Recognises ecological value as sacred.

5) Idea of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam -
seeing "world as one" - prevents
resource exploitation of poor Nations
eg) African countries resource exploitation.

Incorporation of these principles -

- 1) LIFE: Lifestyle for environment
- 2) Meeting Developmental needs by Renewables (Exceeded INDC target)

Thus Ancient philosophy imparts wisdom
& guiding light to present policy makers

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3) a) In the above quote, Dr B.R. Ambedkar emphasises on the purpose of human existence & the importance of "being human".

Ultimate aim: Cultivation of Mind:

1) Cultivating broad values like Compassion, empathy, tolerance —
Key to unlocking human's potential.
eg Caring for the poor/vulnerable

2) Tolerance & recognition of differences

↳ fosters spirit of fraternity.
(basis of nationalism according to Ambedkar)

3) Developing rational, scientific

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Thinking as a basis of one's thinking
~~process~~ thinking

(eg) Rejecting unscientific & outdated
practices like caste system's
untouchability

4) Recognition of human dignity &
essence — emphasising one's
values

In present context, application:

① Generates Tolerance

(eg) Dialogue for resolving
dispute.

② Prevents hatred & suspicion —
root of casteism, communalism.

③ Promotes Modern, Rational thinking

(eg) Rights of LGBTQ+

④ Promotes scientific & curiosity
↳ prevents superstition

Thus, Humans differ from animals by
effective cultivation of mind

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b) Above quote by Aristotle highlights how one hides his faults/accuracies by taking a different perspective, not facing the reality.

Coward calls the brave man rash-

↳ Coward does not take action, fearing consequences. To hide his inaction, he calls the brave, courageous man reckless blaming him.

eg NOT preventing sexual harassment fearing attack on oneself or legal complications

Implications → Justifies inaction
↳ creates Apathy among people.
↳ Distorted viewpoints

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2) We can see application in International context

→ Petty Geopolitics consideration preventing China to condemn Pahalgam terror ~~or~~ attack & called India's action rash

Rash Man calls him a coward

1) Sometimes reckless decisions are also not good. He simply acts without proper thinking & those who don't act or act with caution calls them coward

eg) India's cautious stance of not giving in to Westerns demand of criticising Russia and buying oil ⇒ furthering our National interest

Thus refining our thoughts critically examining our perspectives, crucial.

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9) Kant in the above quote underline
the essence of benevolent intention
— out of doing good to others with
pure heart.

Benevolence is a duty —

1) As a human being, we should
do things as a human — following
law of our being — following

eg Care for other sentients —

2) Respecting dignity & freedom of
all

eg Preventing exploitative practices
like child labour

3) Acting with pure heart

eg Helping Grandparents or
Senior citizens in their chores.

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Frequently practices it - harmony
with himself:

1) Sense of compassion & Gratitude
towards things

(eg) Passing an exam - realisation
of efforts & blessings of all.

2) Deontological act of doing good,
not focussing on consequences

(eg) Not stealing or lying even
if short of money.

3) Enhances one's virtue - gives
satisfaction & happiness

4) Realises Maslow's higher order
needs - transcendence ⇒ selfless
& feeling of connect with others.

Indie acted with benevolent intention
during Operation Dost, Vaccine Maitri,
etc.

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4) a) Yuva Noah Harari argues that humans are better at inventing things than understanding proper use of it - well applies to technologies.

AI : Technological disruption :

1) Aimed at making human lives better
↳ Generating efficient data, chatbots

2) Represents next leap of technological advancement
↳ Internet Age ⇒ AI age.

However, it is simply a technology and ethically neutral until we apply it in real world. Then challenges arise

1) Fear of bias & discrimination -

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based on existing data & literature
trained on. Tends to amplify existing
divisions.

(eg) Discriminatory content against
LGBTQ

2) Ethics of Inequality - Dominance
of AI models with few Big tech
companies \Rightarrow fear of concentration
of wealth

3) Digital Divide - affects access
to such technologies
(NSSO - Only 24% internet
penetration in rural areas)

4) Copyright Infringement - cases of
being trained on copyrighted content
(eg) ANI case, NYT case.

5) Data privacy issues \rightarrow amidst
massive use of data.

Thus proper safeguards & regulations
as outlined in Paris AI Summit are
needed.

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b) Institutions function through effective framework outlined through objective rules & procedures.

Rules & procedure: essential.

1) Sets out detailed procedure
eg timeline, eligibility for services.

2) Enforces code of conduct in Institutions

eg maintaining hierarchy, timely grievance redressal

3) Creates transparent & accountable mechanisms

eg Reporting Mechanisms.

However, they are not substitutes for ethical leadership & value based discretion.

1) Ethical & value driven

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Leadership motivates staff for
adhering to rules & procedures and
realising their true value

eg) PM Modi hugging K-sivan after
Chandrayan-II failure

2) Prevents rules becoming end in itself

eg) Poor old lady not being
denied ration due to lack of
documents

3) Driving energy into rules &
procedures towards meaningful
purpose.

eg) IAS Bhupesh chandhary
increasing farmers income in Sikha
Mizoram by convergence of schemes.

4) Empathy & Compassion driven
Governance

eg) IAS Divya Devarajan teaching
tribal language

Thus Ethical leadership (11th APL) &
value based discretion generates purpose
in otherwise passive rules & procedure.

5) a) Civic/political participation
through various means is the
sine qua non of democracy.

Present situation of Youth
being apolitical

1) In Modern times, we are seeing
youth disinterest or remaining
aloof from political matters as-

↳ Too busy in Studies/education.

↳ fast paced life made economic
sphere important than political
sphere

(Locke, Hannah Arendt highlighted
it)

↳ left Politics to Representatives

↳ feeling of disenchantment - as
high corruption, lack of effective results

eg ~~46%~~ 46% MPs have criminal cases,
MUDA scam, etc.

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Ethics of remaining apolitical:

Not Justified as -

- 1) Apolitical goes against ethos of democracy - People's Rule
- 2) Weakens checks & balances.
eg Trend of corrupt practices with no checks
- 3) Goes against Constitutional spirit of "We the people" outlined in Preamble
- 4) Gives rise to demagogic leaders leading to Mobocracy
eg Hitter during 1930s came during democracy
- 5) Politics charts course for a Nation thus crucial.

Increased awareness ~~later~~ through Merkel parliament, Youth Congress, rising role of RTI, Social audits is driving a change in Youth's view of politics

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b) Ethics provide a reasoned framework to deal with moral dilemmas commonly faced by civil servants.

Ethical dilemmas & Moral frameworks
to resolve them:

① Personal vs Professional duty
eg Taking care of ailing mother
or attending to her vs Riot like
situation in a district faced by
an SP of an district.

Ethical framework —

1) virtue approach & Dedication to Duty

— Riots can affect larger masses &
can be violent thus attending to it in
larger public interest: concisep.

— Subordinates or other family members
can take care of Mother.

② Conflict of Interest

eg while being a chair of Interviews process for recruitment, he comes across a candidate whom he knows

Ethical framework

1) Deontological approach - Doing and taking right means - he should highlight the conflict of interest & recuse himself.

③ Written Rules vs Conscience :

eg Poor girl comes for ration but lacks ration card (like Shankha girl case).

Ethical framework -

1) Utilitarian & virtue approach - utilise one's discretion to help the poor girl, even if need to fund using one's own money (Maximise welfare)

Thus, appropriate framework can help resolve ethical dilemmas

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6) a) In the last Paris Olympics, question arose over the participation of transgender athlete in women's category - question of "fairness".

Ethical dimensions in allowing transgender athletes in women sports:

- 1) Question of fairness & Justice -
Differing physical fitness & metabolism affecting fair play
- 2) Aristotelian Justice approach -
making unequals equal is injustice
- 3) feeling of unequal competition may disourage & demotivate women athletes from future competition.
- 4) fear of arbitrariness in such

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Sporting events considering
differing status of transgenders &
other genders.

Ethics is not allowing -

- 1) Feeling of non-inclusivity among
transgenders.
- 2) Marginalisation of community.
- 3) Lack of recognition to their fighting
spirit & struggles → goes against
deontological approach.

Rather than fairness outweighing
inclusion, we need to balance both
principles

↳ Proper research on physical
parameters of transgender

↳ Creating separate categories
(like Male / female weight
categories)

↳ creating level playing field for
transgenders & other genders (equity
approach)

Thus fairness & inclusion both crucial.

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b) Buddhist principles can help in balancing stressful life and taking composed view of Governance in high pressure situation.

Principles balancing personal well being & professional responsibilities

1) Buddha's Madhyam Marga -
Moderation in any situation

eg) Helps civil servants not getting swayed by particular situation

eg) Helps prioritise personal well being through exercise.

2) emphasis on compassion & service to others (eg. Ashoka Dhamma)

eg) Motivates civil servant towards welfare of people - helps him tackle pressure

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3) Maintaining democratic condition, not acting with high-handedness
eg) Officers dealing with crisis situation like disasters — take views of all.

4) Buddha's principle of viewing
kinship/responsibility as [duty]
↳ helps deal with intense pressure,
frequent transfers or political interference

5) Ethical & value driven Governance
— Dhamma Chakra —

eg) Helps one prioritise work
especially during crisis like
Disasters or war like situation

Thus Buddha's principles helps one
achieve personal-professional life
balance driven by values & ethics

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(7) Above case study highlights the issue of potential conflict of interest while awarding contract & issue of corruption in tendering

a) Ethical issues involved -

1) Perception of bias among media, people if proceed ahead with technically sound bid ⇒ Sense of injustice

2) Questions integrity of the process and erodes public trust for future bidding.

3) In case of second bidder, issue of corruption & undue influence

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4) Dilemma of Merit based selection vs public perception of propriety.

5) Issue of ethical transparency & openness.

6) Issue of possibility of favortism (with ~~award~~ bidder first).

b) Options available

1st - Proceed with technically strong bid.

Merits

- 1) Based on Merits of the bid - objective assessment
- 2) Better service & equipments

Demerits

- 1) Erodes public trust - fearing potential conflict of interest.
- 2) Affects transparency
- 3) Affects Integrity of future contracts

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3) As advised
by ~~senior~~

perception in
people's mind.

4) Affects all India
service rules
propriety guidelines

~~2nd~~

2nd → Giving contract to 2nd bidder

Merits

- 1) Saves from potential conflict of interest
- 2) post-retirement job.

Demerits

- 1) Affects service delivery.
- 2) Crisis of conscience
- 3) Affects Integrity of process
- 4) Corrupt practice

3rd - Refuse from particular contract process

Merits

- 1) Saves potential conflict of interest

Demerits

- 1) Fear of corrupt officer being

- 2) Maintain Integrity & Transparency.
- 3) No favoritism.
- 4) Act of propriety

assigned for the contract assignment

c) A Lawi should take third course of action with due suggestions like recommending honest officer for the role & maintaining transparency in the process

Reasons → Maintains Public trust.
→ NO potential conflict of interest.
→ uphold procedural propriety
→ In accordance with Natural Justice.

d) → Maintaining transparency (pro-active) in his decisions
→ by openly bringing out potential conflict of interest.
→ Adhering to service conduct rules in letter & spirit (above law)

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Recently, such situation
arise during operation
Sindoor along border areas.

a) Core ethical issues -

1) Lack of empathy & compassion
in even in such grave
situation:

2) Corruption even in relief
fund distribution \Rightarrow crisis of
conscience

3) Caste based discrimination in
compensation \Rightarrow affects
equality before law (Art 14) &
national justice.

4) Political interference affects
integrity of the process (erodes
public trust)

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5) Discrimination in such times
⇒ violates human dignity
(categorical imperative).

6) Corruption in such times ⇒
against Gandhi's Talisman

b) Immediate course of action -

1) Ensure transparent relief & aid distribution → use e-Gov tools, video recording of distributing and taking surprise checks

2) Strict action against corrupt officials ⇒ setting example

3) Ensuring no one is left out - no caste discrimination by efficient targeting & monitoring

4) Persuading and having meeting

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with local leaders about one
grave situation & need for
equity.

5) Provision of reasonable accommodation
for vulnerables

↳ Roping in NGOs civil society
groups for effective aid to them.

6) Using integrated command & control
for monitoring overall process.

7) Briefing Media to report on
all facets of the issue

↳ indirect pressure against
undue political interference

8) Tactfully Managing

↳ clearly outlining law

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& constitutional duties to them.

2) Persuading them of following
right course of action

⊕ eg) highlighting them promoting
social enmity - disqualification
under RoPA 1951

3) Using e-governance & transparent
tools ⇒ less scope for interference
as politicians fear their image
being furnished.

d) 1) upholding the rules & regulation
in letter & spirit ⇒ understanding
the spirit of rules.

2) Seeing rules not as an end but
means for doing right to people.
↳ Deontological approach

3) Guided by Gandhi's Talisman ⇒
actions helping poorest of poor.

⊕ Emotional Intelligence remains
crucial in such grave times.

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Above case study presents the ethical dilemma of developmental needs, vs environmental protection.

a) Core ethical issues -

- 1) Ethical duty to protect & conserve environment - project in ecologically sensitive region.
- 2) Affects ecological balance
 - ↳ threat to Marine biodiversity
 - ↳ endangered wildlife;
- 3) Rights & livelihoods of indigenous communities will be affected
- 4) Cultural impact on local Adirasi's land

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5) Proceeding with project without
due consideration to indigenous tribes
& biodiversity → violates
deontological approach
of right means.

6) Imperative of National security &
Economic growth if not implemented.

7) Ethical issue of justice will be
violated if done without comprehensive
EIA & stakeholder consultation

8) st Halt the process given environmental
implications

Demerits

- 1) undermines security & economic growth.
- 2) Against balanced approach
- 3) weakens coastal security -

Arguments

- 1) Saves environment & ecological balance
- 2) Preserve rights of indigenous communities.

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2nd Proceed with the project in a
fast pace mode

Merits

- 1) Strengthen security
- 2) Economic growth & investment - trade
- 3) Creates strategic asset.

Demerits

- 1) Irreversible ecological damage
- 2) Violates tribal rights (FRA, 2006)
- 3) Affects cultural heritage
- 4) Unsustainable approach

3rd → Starting the project only with
proper EIA & adequate stakeholder consultation

Merits

- 1) Considers all dimensions before proceeding
- 2) Minimising damage to highly eco-sensitive area.
- 3) Due consideration to

Demerits

- 1) Might have time delay or protests in the process.

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rights of tribals
4) Adequate
compensation &
other measures

I will proceed with option 3 due
to its merits.

- c)
- 1) Involving experts & scientists
in the process for providing data
& evidences
 - 2) Maintaining pro-active transparency
to elicit public opinion
 - 3) Effective grievance redressal
Mechanism for course correction

- d)
- 1) Need for comprehensive EIA with
experts involvement & local bodies
(public screening)
 - 2) Co-opting tribal bodies & leaders
in resolving potential conflicts
 - 3) Giving effect to their rights under
PESA, 1996 & FRA, 2008
In the Great Nicobar Project, policymakers
faces similar conflict.

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Above case study highlights the ever growing role of social media influence on children and polarised content distorting their worldview.

a) 1) Ethical issue of deep impact on children's mental & psychological health due to polarised content.

2) Distorted worldview - often showing only one aspect.

(eg) Only focus on free thinking, fails to highlight role of education.

3) Fear of radicalisation at young age - might fall for extremist views.

(eg) Growing radicalisation of youth by terror outfits!

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4) Ethical issue of accountability
of such influencers - huge
influence on people's thinking without
any accountability.

5) Issue of shallow Intellectualism
need for holistic education &
socialisation which one gets
through educational institutions.

6) Distancing with parents - not
listening to them

b) 1) Public influencers should have
moral & ethical responsibility
for their content given the wide
influence they hold in today's
world.

2) They should caution youth
against any radical step out of
free speech promotion.

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3) In above case, Kunal Bhalla should persuade the girl to pursue education and focus on academics, she can work with podcast team later.

4) They should adhere to Digital Medical ethics 2021 Rules and refrain from any radicalised content.

5) Adhere to fundamental duty scientific inquiry promoting

6) Influencers/Public figures can't be absolved from their social responsibility (Deontological approach)

Policy framework

1) Promote free speech but put

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adequate cautions & advisories.

2) Specific guidelines regarding
content targeting children & young
students

↳ No Radical content

↳ Not creating discourse against
Schools/College (affects
Public order)

↳ Giving holistic picture in
content.

3) Self regulation of content - 1st
step:

4) Submitting to scrutiny or accountability
for their content - 2nd step (if
content found violative of checks &
balances)

Responsible Influencing is imperative
in context of growing social media
influencing & age of AT

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11

Case Study highlights the ethical concerns associated with rise in AI driven platforms and Corporate responsibility in addressing them.

a) Ethical Issues —

1) Ethical issue of bias & discrimination —
— bias against tribal & minority background students

2) Non-Inclusive platform —
lack support for vernacular language & neurodivergent users

3) Development at the cost of environment — huge carbon footprint of the project.

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4) Ethical issue of justice & fairness - Misidentify individuals & unfairly flag behavioural issue.

5) Dilemma of maintaining company's growth momentum vs deontological (consequentialist) path of resolving issues - Right means.

b) Options available -

1st - Proceed with the project as it is

Merit

- 1) Company's growth & recognition
- 2) Promotion benefits
- 3) faster delivery of services

Demerits

- 1) Discrimination & bias - as misidentify individuals from tribal background
- 2) Non-Inclusion - Vernacular excluded
- 3) Environmental risk unheard
- 4) Creates crisis of conscience

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2nd - Pause & Resume these progress -

Merits

- 1) Sustainable development - environmental efficiency
- 2) Incorporate local language (vernacular)
- 3) Addreses issue of bias - Inclusive structure
(virtue based approach)

Demerits

- 1) Slow down progress & growth
- 2) Internal friction
- 3) Threat to promotion prospects
- 4) Risks investor confidence.

3rd → Making course correction to incorporate local data & language & improving environmental efficiency while implementing rest of the project & assuring all stakeholders transparently

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Merits

1) Incorporate concerns of company & investors —

Momentum Maintained.

2) Addresses environmental issue

3) Better trained data to remove bias & discrimination

Raghu should adopt option 3

→ as Utilitarian approach

(Maximises benefits for all)

→ Virtue based approach

→ Prioritises concern of discrimination & environment along with Corporate Profit consideration.

Sustainable Development with ethical consideration of AI projects is the way ahead.

Demerits

1) Investors might get upset with the progress of the project

(12) Recently various cities of India reported high AQI levels pointing to air pollution like Delhi, Mumbai.

a) 1st option - Proceed with the restriction on activities affecting Air pollution

Merits

- 1) Chances of improved air quality - addresses source regions.
- 2) In line with STA Article - duty to protect environment
- 3) Better public health (Article 47)

Demerits

- 1) Effect on livelihood
(eg) construction activities
- 2) fear of potential political fallout
- 3) Not a balanced deontological approach

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2nd option - Halting or not proceeding with the above measures.

Merits

- 1) Livelihood saved.
- 2) No fear of strikes.
- 3) No political fallout.

Demerits

- 1) Public health at grave risk
- 2) ecological balance upset
- 3) Crisis of conscience - for not acting timely.
- 4) Against virtue based approach

3rd option → Incorporating concerns of all stakeholders & not going for blanket ban (eg) equipping farmers with alternatives like happy seeder machine suspending only highly polluting construction, or giving alternate employment etc

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Merit

~~Merit~~

Demerit

- 1) Balanced —
virtuous approach
- 2) Inclusive
decision —
incorporate
concerns of all
- 3) Addresses
health concern
- 4) Addresses
Medic concern of
anti-post measures
- 5) Sustainable

~~For~~ officer should adopt third
option due to its positives

Core values & principles.

1) Objectivity in decision making —

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evidence based & based on
proper scientific assessments.

2) Gandhi's Talisman - Thinking of
poorest of poor while implementing
any measure.

3) Balanced, Measured approach -
incorporating concerns of all

4) Utilitarian approach - which
Maximises benefits of all.

5) Rawls's Democratic equality
helping least advantaged
section of the society.

Institutional Reforms

d) 1) Comprehensive EIA with Multi-
stakeholder consultation & public
hearing.

2) Setting limits on Industrial emissions
& enforcing them.

3) Strengthening Institutional capacity
of state pollution control
boards