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कृपया इस स्थान  
में प्रश्न संख्या के  
अतिरिक्त कुछ  
न लिखें।

# UPSC

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**UPSC IFS 2024**

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Submission date: 10.8.24

G S 4 FLT-1

**VAJIRAM & RAVI**

Q.1a:

A value is an enduring belief system that helps guide our decisions and actions.

Values form an important part of education.

Ideal educational institution: Balance between values and contents.

- ① will enable holistic development of the students → becoming great leaders  
(e.g.) MS Swaminathan was a man of brilliant education and values
- ② In line with Gandhiji's 'Nai Talim' education scheme.
- ③ will propel growth of society (e.g.) Malala had both values and education
- ④ Institutions like Shanti Niketan, ancient gurukul system also focused on both aspects.

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⑤ Inculcating respect for elders, compassion for the downtrodden, and kindness towards all living beings.

Measures to go beyond mere content learning

- ① Moral science as a separate subject in schools
- ② Including classes for building healthy relations based on values  
(e.g.) Delhi Schools → Happiness Curriculum.
- ③ Breaking social barriers  
(e.g.) in my school we had cleanliness drives → students and sanitation workers cleaned together

These steps can ensure in developing holistic competence and values.

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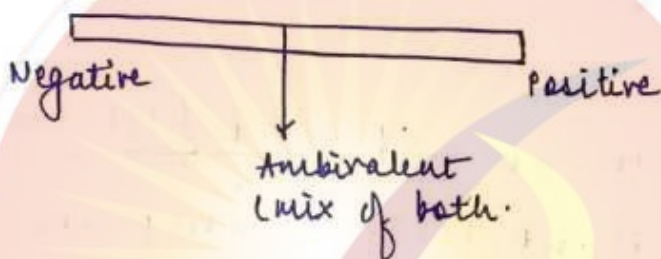
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b)

Attitude is an acquired predisposition to evaluate thoughts, actions and behaviours. It can be of different types.



## Attitude in building social capital

① Positive attitude → better leader due to efficient crisis handling.

(e.g.) MS Dhoni staying positive even in stressful matches.

② ~~Prevents~~ Prevents prejudices against coworkers or colleagues → better teamwork

③ Attitude instrumental in gaining professional competence → earns

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respect from fellow workers

(e.g.) Satish Dhawan widely respected scientist.

④ Attitude of humility helps develop a connection with masses.

(e.g.) Anitabh Bachchan revered by masses.

⑤ Attitude can help move past barriers

(e.g.) Sukant Bolla → entrepreneur despite blindness → serves as inspiration to many

However, attitude alone is not enough for social capital. It also needs —

① Aptitude → being skilled at what we do, else attitude is hollow.

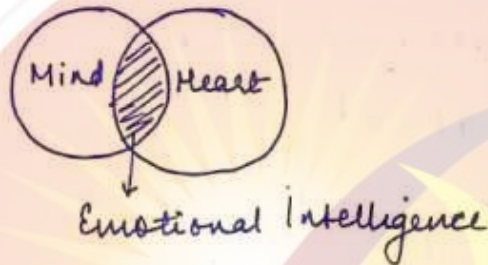
② Emotional Intelligence → helps manage emotions and conflicts.

It is rightly said, "It is not your aptitude but attitude which determines your attitude".



Q2a

a) Emotional Intelligence is the ability to manage self emotions and emotions of others around us.



Emotional Intelligence (EI) in managing workplace conflicts

- ① Prevents misunderstandings as person with EI can gauge others emotions  
e.g. conflict between two colleagues can be finished early.
- ② Helps the leader to be more empathetic  
e.g. APJ Abdul Kalam taking his employees' kids to fair as he was busy.

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③ Helps maintain an inclusive environment  
→ less conflicts

(e.g.) EI person will make efforts to ensure women / LGBT also included in his team.

④ Helps induce a positive work culture  
→ automatically reduces conflicts

(e.g.) Nearly 45% Indians dread going to work → This won't happen if because of work culture most people follow EI.

⑤ Will enable fair approach towards all → avoiding favouritism or nepotism

However it must be ensured that —

① EI is not used negatively for manipulation  
(e.g.) making employees work extra hours without pay.

② EI must not be used to create rifts between employees

Thus, EI plays an important role in enabling healthy workplaces.

Q2

(b)

The recent conflicts in Israel-Hamas  
and Russia Ukraine are all results  
of bilateral conflicts arising due to  
mutual suspicion.

Mutual suspicion makes it hard to  
resolve conflicts

- ① Reduces scope for peace talks  
(e.g.) between India and Pakistan  
" Terrorism and Talks " can't happen together
- ② Increases aversion towards the other  
country  
(e.g.) Nepal resenting India on suspicion  
of interference in its Constitution  
drafting process
- ③ Preparing for "doomsday"  
(e.g.) during cold war, Russia and US  
kept stockpiling nuclear weapons  
due to suspicion of attack.

- ④ Asserting authority in suspicion  
e.g. Russia attacking Ukraine on suspicion that it will join NATO.

## Role of Panchsheel in promoting ethical relations

- ① Enables mutual respect for each others territory  
e.g. India never tried to occupy neighbouring territories.
- ② Non interference in internal affairs decreases suspicion e.g. no suspicion between India - Bhutan.
- ③ Non aggression policy against non nuclear states → smaller neighbours can be at peace.
- ④ No first nuclear use policy → India thought as peaceful country despite being biggest arms ~~ex~~ importer (SIPRI)
- Panchsheel principles can be an important step in moving towards world peace.

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Q3

a) The high debt to GDP ratio of states like Punjab (~53%) have raised questions about the ethics of freebie culture.

Huge sum of money for populist measures

- ① Freebies such as free water, electricity → cost borne by government from public funds
- ② Disrupts state finances → "fiscal profligacy"
- ③ Less sums available for "capital expenditure" → development poor

Ethical Issues of freebie culture

- ① Negative manipulation of voter behaviour → voting for freebies rather than actual work.

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- ② Disrupts and demotivates leaders banking on genuine work rather than mere freebies → diverting attention
- ③ 'Sin goods' as freebies → promote bad habits among masses  
e.g. alcohol as a freebie.
- ④ Shows <sup>less</sup> focus on long term pain over short term gain → will lead to poor finances later.
- ⑤ Promotes a 'teleological approach' where ends of winning elections can be achieved by any means.

However,

- ① India is a 'welfare state' - constitutional obligation to provide some free goods.
- ② Issues regarding what qualifies as a freebie and what does not  
e.g. Garib Kalyan Yojana may also be considered freebie → but is essential.  
Supreme Court in Subramania Balaji case stated that freebies should be reduced and confined to merit goods only.

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Q3.

b) Probity in governance is a practice of upholding the highest standards in governance



Probity vital for socio economic development

① Helps enable good service delivery  
(e.g.) in Delhi Metro

② Will help ensure transparency and accountability

(e.g.) voluntary disclosure of performance of a scheme → improve for further development

③ Helps ensure 'financial integrity' by reducing corruption  
(e.g.) blockchain use to track accounts transactions.

- 4) enables in inclusive development  
ensures Gandhiji's servodaya idea
- 5) Helps weed out any malpractices  
(e.g.) Vinod Rai disclosed the ~~the~~ Commonwealth Scam
- 6) Helps in equitable resource allocation  
(e.g.) fair fund allotment in MNREGA, PM KISAN etc.
- 7) Helps improve citizen participation → strong democracy and development  
(e.g.) citizen RTI led to disclosure of MP's Vyapam scam.

Probity in governance is thus, not a choice but an imperative to realise India's 'Viksit Bharat Goal' by 2047.

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Q4a)

Wisdom is one of the 4 cardinal virtues of Plato along with Fortitude, Temperance and Justice.

Wisdom when a person ready to accept truth

① Helps realise our own shortcomings  
→ gaining wisdom in the process.  
(e.g.) me realising I failed an exam because I wasn't prepared enough

② Acceptance of truth paves way for self improvement → leads to wisdom  
(e.g.) Edison's multiple failures finally led to discovery.

③ Acceptance of truth → finding bigger meaning in life → wisdom  
(e.g.) Buddha's enlightenment after realising suffering and its true cause.

## Wisdom about renouncing untruth

① Prevents any 'echo chamber' formation

e.g. every political party believing they are error free → leads to echo chamber

② Prevents living in 'utopia' and not facing reality

e.g. addicted youth renouncing true experiences for drugs etc.

Case Study: Domino's experiencing downfall before 2008 →

realised that customers didn't like their pizzas → sought feedback, made changes and asked same customers to taste their pizza again → showed continuous growth between 2010 - 17.

All due to the acceptance of truth that their pizzas were lacking

wisdom thus is an important result of accepting truth.

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Q4

- b) Public Administration is a system of managing the government and its functions in a way to ensure development of all people.

Increasing complexity in public administration

↳ MULTIPLE DILEMMAS

- ① Involvement of technology in public administration

Raises dilemmas of —

- ① Privacy of citizens vs National Interest Transparency in governance

- ② Confidentiality of documents vs National Interest (e.g.) seen in Sealed Cover Jurisprudence

- ② Transitioning to 'Role based' Public Administration

dilemmas —

- ① Justice vs Mercy (e.g.) in case of capital punishment

which goes against spirit of reformatore justice.

## (ii) Rules r/s Compassion

(e.g.) guaranteeing scheme benefits to a woman with no documents

## (3) Rising complexity of climate change

Dilemmas:

(i) growth r/s environment

(e.g.) Jashimath bearing cost of excess growth.

## Gandhi's Talisman in decision making

- (1) enabling the upliftment of the poorest sections — 'Antyodaya'
- (2) Ensures inclusive growth by 'leaving none behind'
- (3) Fills 'compassion and empathy' in approach dealing with such dilemmas.
- (4) Helps avoid 'crisis of conscience'

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Q5.

a) "The highest result of education is tolerance"

The above quote by Helen Keller signifies the true essence of education which lies in shedding away our prejudices and accepting different people.

How Education leads to Tolerance?

Opens way for emotional intelligence → understanding other's perspectives

e.g. Raja Ram Mohan Roy had tolerance for all

Increases awareness about other traditions, Customs etc.

e.g. Nehru's Tribal Panchsheel → tolerance for tribals

Widening horizons

e.g. Akbar realising value of ancient Hindu scriptures → translation of Mahabharata

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Education leading to tolerance

→ Gives a reality check of the evils of intolerance

e.g. Ashoka after Kalinga war's destruction.

Paves way for discussions and social change

e.g. tolerance to LGBT community

→ Education gives values → induces tolerance

e.g. Atal Bihari Vajpayee asked Nehruji's photo to be put in his office

However, not all educated men are tolerant

e.g. Osama bin Laden, Afzal Guru → educated but lacked tolerance

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education, however, plays a very important role in inculcating tolerance. "True education is what remains after one has forgotten what they learnt at school" — tolerance can be one of these things -



Q4

6

The above quote by Mahatma Gandhi emphasises on the need for service and that too one with joy and enthusiasm for the greater benefit of both servant and server.

Doesn't help the servant

- ① fills in a sense of arrogance rather than compassion in the servant.
- ② Gives the feeling that it's done as a mere responsibility  
(e.g.) not being involved in charity due to own will.
- ③ Does not help personal growth as servant doesn't realise true purpose  
(e.g.) scamster 'kabas' claiming to serve God by looting devotees.

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## Doesn't help the served

- ① Makes them an object of 'pity' rather than genuine help.
- ② Tends to increase obligation and reduce self esteem of the person being served. (e.g) reluctantly sharing notes with friend.
- ③ Comes across as a favour than actual 'Dharma' of the servant

Way forward

→ Service must involve our full devotion and dedication

→ enabling empathy and compassion in our approach of service

"Service to mankind, is service to god" — One must always remember this —

Q4.

c)

Faith refers to our belief in an idea or a person while strength represents both physical and mental strength of an individual or organisation

Importance of faith in accomplishing great work

① Helps increase self esteem and motivation

(e.g.) Subhash Chandra Bose had faith in INA's power

② Helps increase teamwork and social capital

(e.g.) Faith of ISRO team in Chandrayaan 3 → good teamwork and success.

③ Helps to tide over tough-times

(e.g.) Individual having faith in God → makes him hopeful.

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## Importance of Strength

- ① Brings in the 'aptitude' required to accomplish great work.
- ② Strength is necessary to overcome obstacles and make one more resilient.
- ③ Emotional strength can be a sign of emotional intelligence → leads to great work.
- ④ Strength can help recover quickly after failure e.g. Japan after World War II → fastest growing economy.

Both faith and strength are

two sides of a coin needed to accomplish great work.

Q6  
a)



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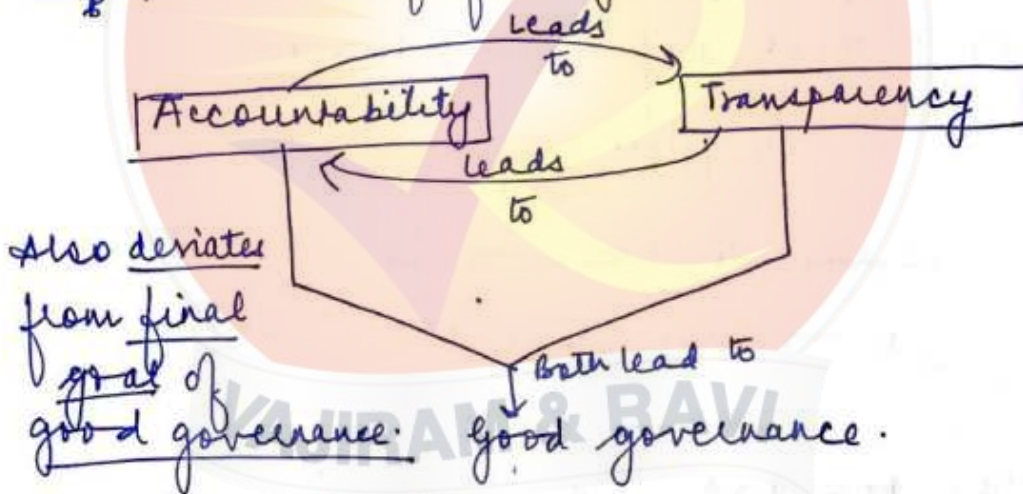
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Q6

- a) Corruption is an unethical practice which leads to corrosion of public administration system.

Fragile Accountability increasing Corruption

- ① Disrupts its self feeding loop.



- ② Leads to poor information sharing  
→ scope for scams etc. (e.g.) lottery based allocations of coal blocks

- ③ Fragile Accountability leads to concentration of power in hands of information bearers → "Absolute power corrupts absolutely"

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- ④ Fragile accountability → formation of 'unholy nexus' as per 2nd ARC  
→ breeds corruption.

## Ambiguous division of power

- ① breeding ground for conflict of interest and favouritism (e.g.) ICICI - Videocon case
- ② Denial of fair opportunities to all  
→ corruption by few
- ③ Leads to excessive power in hands of few → more prone to misuse.

Way Forward → clear power divisions and recusal of officers if any overlap.

Regular audit mechanisms. Using e-governance to increase accountability. (e.g.) myGov

It is rightly said, "Let the people know the fact and the country will be safe".

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Q6b

① Non Partisanship - Refers to the practise of non alignment with any political party or ideology.

Importance for civil servant

- Impartial attitude in work
- Fairness and openness ensured
- (e.g.) civil servants asked to resign before elections

② Cognitive dissonance - caused by a situation when we know on an inner level that we are taking the wrong step, yet we do it.  
Also called 'Knower doer split'

Importance

- Helps in ethical decision making
- (e.g.) not taking bribe because I know it is wrong
- helps avoid conscience crisis

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③ Veil of Ignorance - approach suggested by the philosopher, John Rawles in his approach to 'Justice'.

Veil of Ignorance → not knowing any background of a person → Equitable Justice disposal.

Importance → Enabling fairness in approach  
→ Avoiding favoritism  
(e.g) not allotting tender to my friend as an officer

④ moral relativism : concept that moral values are not constant and change based on religion, time place etc.

(e.g) → Sati : moral practice before 1829  
→ Non vegetarian diet : immoral for Jains but moral for muslim

⑤ Social Influence : skill to convince a group of people to bend their thinking in a desired manner.

(e.g) → Positive : "School Chale Hum" campaign to popularise school education  
→ Negative : 'Vimal' ads by superstars normalising tobacco usage.

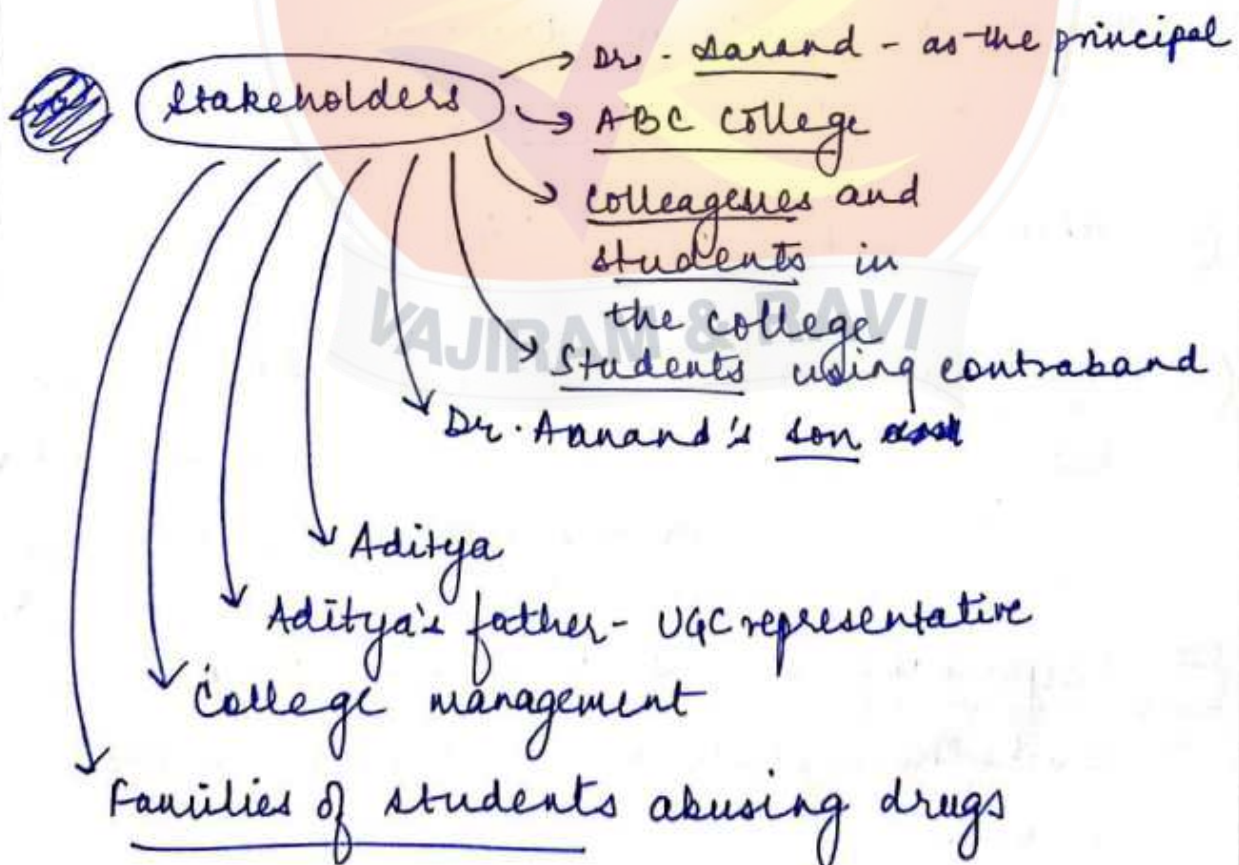
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Q7

The above case represents a case of drug and substance abuse among young students due to a well organised network — threatening the future of Dr. Anand and his son and also other students involved.



## Ethical Issues in the case

- ① Use of contraband substances which is illegal as per NDPS Act.
- ② Involvement of young students and future at stake.
- ③ Institute's failure in serving as a source of 'value education' as its students consume drugs.
- ④ Dr. Sanand's dilemma — saving short term college reputation or long term student's future.
- ⑤ Abuse of power by Aditya's father.
- ⑥ low moral values of both Aditya and his father → allowing illegal activities in the temples of learning.
- ⑦ Psychological impact on Dr. Sanand's son and other students → yet to start their careers.

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(b) Options available to Dr. Sarand

(I) Let go of the case

MERITS

DEMERITS

(1) College reputation secured

(1) Long term loss of students future

(2) Avoids conflict with management

(2) might lead to more activities in future.

(3) Shows lack of fortitude (Plato's virtue)

(II) Informing media about it

MERITS

DEMERITS

(1) Secures student's future

(1) Unnecessary sensation-alisation and media trials.

(2) Fulfillment of Dr. Sarand's duty

(2) might not solve actual problem.

(III) Discussing and convincing management

MERITS

DEMERITS

(1) Goes to the root of issue

Doesn't secure college reputation

(2) Preventing such activities in future.

Conflict and management may not agree

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The course of action to be adopted by Dr. Anand should be III → Talking to management. His steps should be —

Highlighting the seriousness of the issue and convincing management to take hard steps

↓  
Suspension of students for a week and ensuring counselling for them after that

↓  
If management doesn't agree, I will write a letter to UGC informing about case

↓  
Aditya's father must be removed from his position in UGC due to unethical behaviour.

↓  
Incorporating some form of value education in college.

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(c) The most prominent law in this regard is the NDPS Act. The DSPs also mention the need to avoid intoxicating substances (Article 47)

Drug abuse has been on the rise & in India and steps must be taken to ~~avoid this~~ counter it at the earliest.

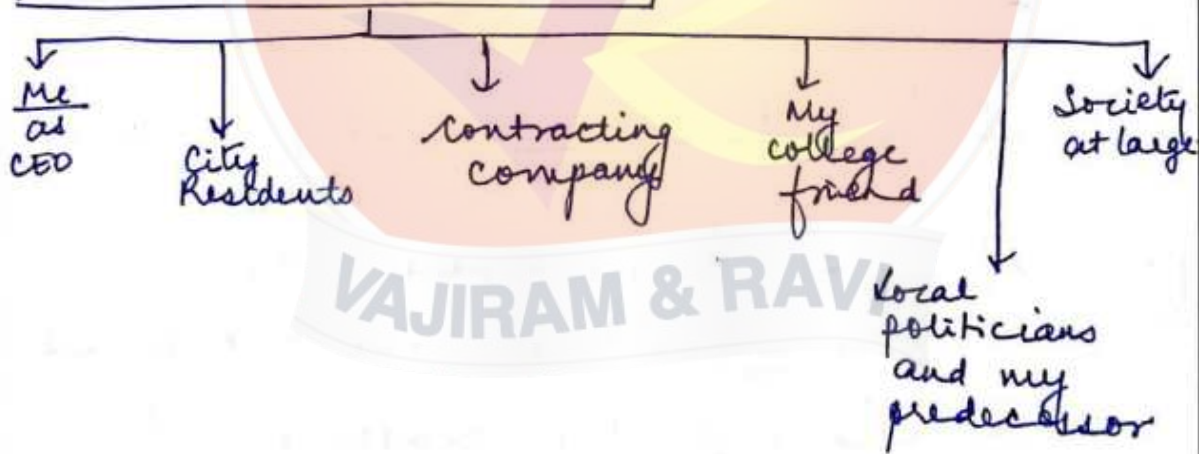
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Q8

The given case is a situation of conflict of interest where my friend <sup>and poor service delivery</sup> is involved in illegal activities, and I am responsible for being in charge as the CEO of the Smart Cities Mission

## Stakeholders in the case



(a) Ethical Issues involved in the case.

(1) Case of collusive corruption between my friend's company, politicians and my predecessor bureaucrat

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- ② Poor Quality of Service delivery in city → loss of trust of citizens.
- ③ Good governance standards are ignored → 'apathy' of company towards citizens.
- ④ Environmental damage due to anthropocentric approach of the company.
- ⑤ Ethical dilemma for me as due to friend's mother's illness, I know she needs money but is using unethical means (Consequentialism)
- ⑥ Offer for being a part of the 'unholy nexus' as I am also offered a share of the contract.
- ⑦ Poor moral fortitude by my predecessors and local politicians for accepting bribes.

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b) Choose Options available -

① Accepting friend's offers

Merits

- ① Friendship intact
- ② Me benefiting from contract too
- ③ Friend's mother's health secured

Demerits

- ① Dereliction of duty as the CEO
- ② Illegal as per Prevention of corruption act
- ③ Poor city hygiene

② Reporting my friend to the police

Merits

- ① Correct legal action
- ② Paves way for better city hygiene

Demerits

- ① Friendship harmed and shows my apathy to his mother's illness
- ② Harsh actions may be taken.

③ Talking to my friend

Merits

- ① Friendship can still be saved
- ② Ensuring mother's well being.

Demerits

- ① might not be very effective.

Answer Questions in NOT MORE THAN the Word Limit specified for each in the Parenthesis.  
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Course of action by me —

Steps

Reason

① steerily refusing any share in the contract → Righteousness or 'Dharma'

② stating clearly to my friend that as CEO Smart Cities, I will not allow poor service delivery → Avoiding dereliction of duty

③ Asking my friend to arrange for enough finance to secure his company's operations OR withdraw from contract → Avoiding any conflicts of interest.

④ I can convince him that with good service delivery his company will get more than what they invested because citizens are satisfied → using social influence

⑤ If needed, I can help him pay some bills for mother's ill health or arrange for her treatment in some good government hospital. → Compassion is at the root of Dharma's

These steps can ensure favourable outcomes for all stakeholders

Q9

⑧ The given case is a complicated situation of the resistance that social reforms need to face and Rekha as the Sarpanch needs to find a way to ensure that evil practices and superstitions are shunned.

① Ethical Issues involved in the case

① Unethical and illegal activities rampant in the village (e.g.) female infanticide, child marriage -

② Hard etched patriarchal attitude of villagers which is hard to change

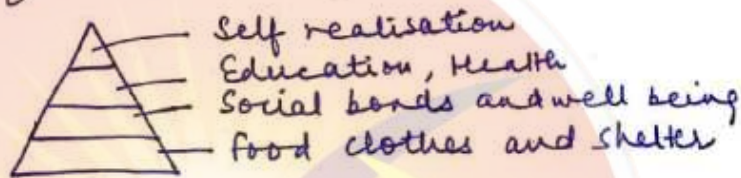
③ social ostracization of Rekha and her family → impacting mental health of her family

④ The dilemma of Religion v/s Reform

lies in front of her.

⑤ 'Detrimental value system' being transmitted from village elders to younger generation.

⑥ villagers still stuck at the bottom rung of Maslow's pyramid



b) and c)

Options available with Lekha

① Accepting defeat before villagers

Merits

Demerits

① Integration of her family in the social order.

② Avoids conflicts

① Women of village → long term harm

② 'Khowar doer split' for Lekha

② Resigning from her position as sarpanch

Merit

Demerit

① Ends all conflicts

① Crisis of conscience still persists

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III following dual path of informing local police and aggressive social influence

Merits

Demerits

- 1) Regressive practices like Child marriage, Infanticide curbed
- 2) Knower does split addressed.
- 3) Paves way for future change

- 1) Further social ostracization
- 2) might be some collusion between police and powerful village elders.

Rekha should adopt course III in the situation.

Rekha's action

Taking help of few trusted liberal villagers

↓  
Find evidence of families involved in ill practices

↓  
Report to police

Social influence using religious texts as guide (As done by Raja Ram Mohan Roy)

↓  
Taking help from local NGOs, trusts etc

↓  
Designing an influential campaign

↓  
Informing villagers

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↓  
about the illegalities of their actions and consequences  
as per law  
↓  
ensuing enrollment of girls in school  
↓  
regular health checkups via ASHA workers for women

(d) Government Steps —

- ① Prevention of female infanticide act
- ② child marriage prevention act
- ③ To address high maternal mortality
  - i) ICDS scheme and Anganwadi services → healthy meals for pregnant and lactating mothers.
  - ii) PM - Matru Vandana Yojana → promotes institutional delivery
  - iii) POSHAN Abhiyan

It is rightly said that a country can't progress till its women progress. Thus, steps should be taken to fulfill SDG - 5 → Reduced Gender Inequalities

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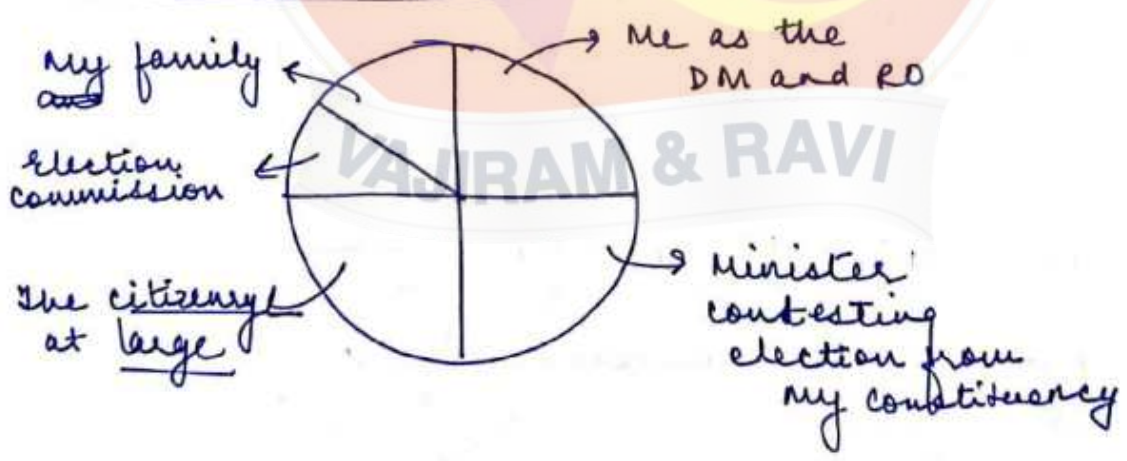
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Q19

The Constitution of India under Article 324 mandates free and fair elections in the country. It also forms one of the pillars of the 'basic structure' of the Constitution

The given case threatens this very important tenet of democracy.

### Stakeholders in the case



### ① Ethical dilemmas in the situation

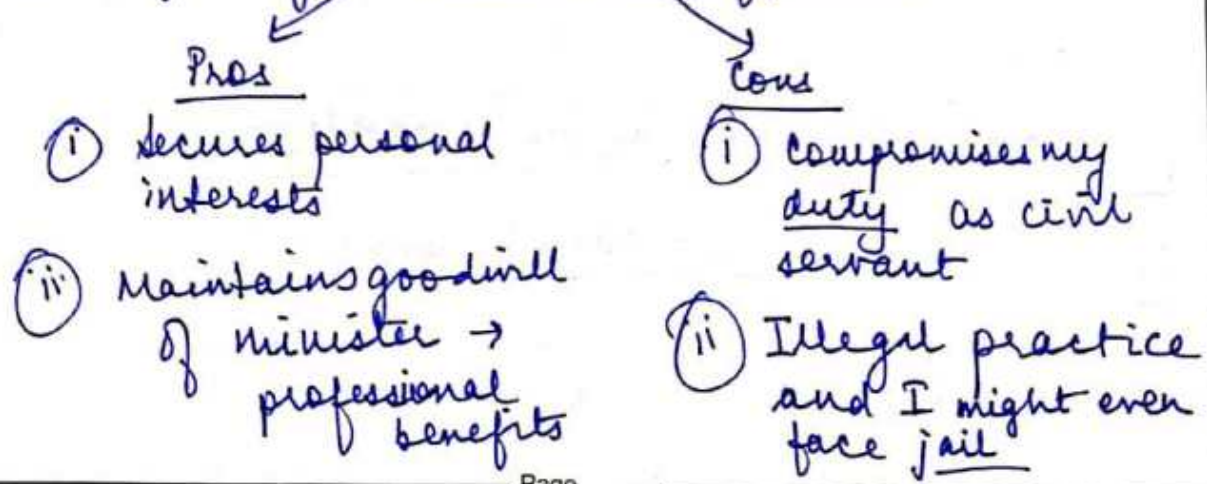
① Violates 'constitutional morality' of having free and fair elections.

- ② ethical dilemma between personal and family gains vs upholding democracy and my duty.
- ③ Corrupt and illegal behaviour on part of politician → distorting electoral practices
- ④ Dilemma between my duty as parent (securing good education for children) and duty as a civil servant
- ⑤ 'Professional blackmail' being faced by me as I have to choose between good postings and upholding rule of law for no fault of my own.

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## ② Options available to me

### ① Agreeing to ministers offer



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## ② Informing media about situation

- Pros
- ① Performing my duty
  - ② Upholding democracy ethos.

- Cons
- ① Minister might still be able to suppress it.
  - ② Family and professional interests hampered.

## ③ Informing <sup>CEO and police</sup> ~~ECI~~ about the situation

- Pros
- ① <sup>CEO</sup> ~~ECI~~ is the right party to deal with this
  - ② Upholding democracy

- Cons
- ① Professional setbacks
  - ② Family affected.

I would choose Option 3 as the most suitable one because —

① Minister's offer is a violation of Constitution as well as Representation of People's Act 1951 → Police must be informed.

② ECI needs to be intimated to take right action → Hence I will inform

my Chief Electoral Officer about the gravitas of the situation

③ This action will set a precedent that corrupt practices in elections will not be tolerated in any situations  
→ showing 'conviction of courage'

④ Even though all postings don't appear same → all have potential to serve the citizens → won't view any posting as big / small and try to do my best.

⑤ I will personally involve myself in my kids' education after office hours to ensure their quality is not affected. If needed, they can also be sent to nearby boarding school

India is the largest democracy in the world and its democratic essence must not be hampered in any circumstance.

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# UPSC

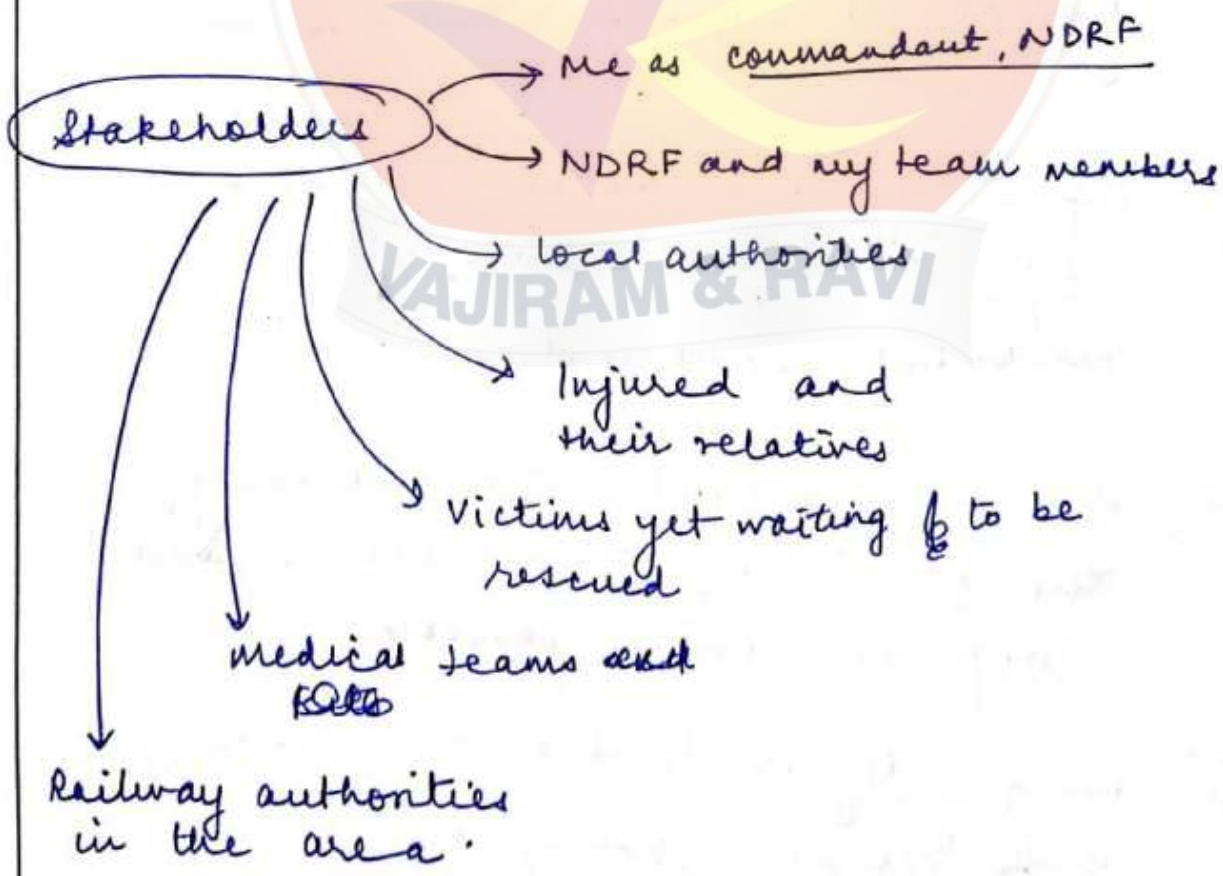
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Q11

The given case is a reminiscent of the Balasore train accident that occurred in Odisha in 2023 → taking lives of several people.

This is a case of human caused disaster and needs early intervention to save lives.



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(a) Steps I would take to ~~and~~ handle crisis

(I) Rescue Efforts

- ① Since mobilisation is tough and slow → taking effort of local authorities into account.
- ② Local police and army officers if any can be involved in rescue. Members of Railway Protection Force in the district or adjoining districts can be used.
- ③ Informing all local hospitals and adjoining district hospitals to send personnel, equipments etc.
- ④ In the meanwhile also informing the Air Force, Army, CRPF to send troops as soon as possible.
- ⑤ Being fully involved in operations to raise morale of team members.
- ⑥ Heavy lifting equipment to be sourced from same or closeby district.

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## II Efforts for Injured and Family members

- ① ensuring on site first aid and hospitalisation for those more seriously injured.
- ② explaining my course of action to all passengers, their kins and victims to pacify them and ensure to them that we are trying our best (Displays compassion)

## III More efforts

- ① Arranging for repair of communication lines as soon as possible
- ② Arranging food and water for victims and kin

## IV Steps to avoid further rail accidents

- ① Timely repair and maintenance of train tracks
- ② using AI based detection systems to detecting any cracks/

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breaks in the track.

- ③ fixing accountability of officers or ~~senior~~ employees responsible for upkeep of tracks.
- ④ special care during heavy rains, floods, earthquakes etc.
- ⑤ assessing the rate of train passage on a given line and trying to diversify tracks to relieve some burden

Railways are the lifeline of the country and their efficient working is important for country's progress.

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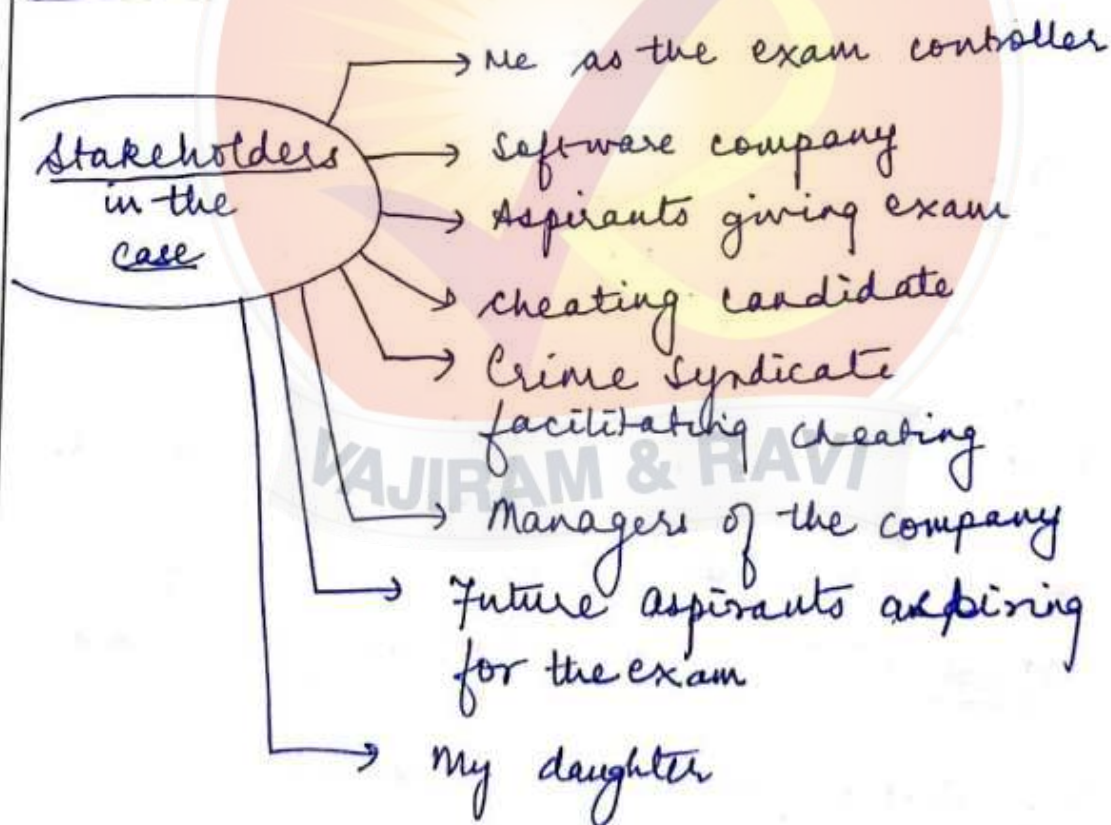
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प्रश्न संख्या के  
अतिरिक्त कुछ  
न लिखें।

Q12

The recent NEET case where an organised group led to paper leaks and cheating in the examination highlights the grave issue of cheating in public exams.



(a) Ethical issues in the case

(i) Cheating in the exam. Goes against

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the basic tenet of 'Honesty is the best Policy'

- ② 'Consequentialist approach' → use of crooked means to achieve end.
- ③ Presence of crime syndicate → widespread 'moral decadence' in society.
- ④ Collusive corruption between software company professionals and syndicate
- ⑤ Use of blackmail <sup>and greed</sup> to coerce me into giving up my ethical stand
- ⑥ Poor sense of conscience by fellow employees → favouring the syndicate
- ⑦ Destroying hardwork of laks of students → 'utilitarianism' failed
- ⑧ My duties towards my daughter to secure her admission

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b) My response in such a scenario: —

- ① Making my stand very clear that I will not tolerate cheating at any cost.
- ② Immediately informing the police to start investigation about the other syndicate members and arrest them.
- ③ Informing my superiors about this → appeal for formation of committee to assess impact of cheating and if re-exam would be needed.
- ④ Personally addressing aspirants, especially at my centre and assuring them of my best efforts to prevent their hard work from being wasted.
- ⑤ Will request higher authorities for protection if my or my family's life is in threat.
- ⑥ As for my daughter, I can secure a loan from the bank as most parents do. I will certainly not accept any profits from the mafia.

(C)

## Online Examination

Pros

- ① ease of conducting exam. Transparency.
- ② generally difficult to hack/cheat  
e.g. IITs conduct cheating free online exams for years
- ③ Prevents paper wastage to significant level

Cons

- ① In case of collusion as in above case, cheating <sup>may</sup> occur at large scale
- ② Lack of familiarity of many students with digital mode
- ③ Networked computers may get hacked

## Way forward

- ① Online exam is not the evil but need to make process more stringent and transparent
- ② strict rules for companies → only trusted software companies like TCS must be allowed

We must thus ensure that such practices don't happen. Recent Public Exam bill in Parliament is right step.

