



# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1827)

Name of Candidate	JANHAVI SATHE		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	ENGLISH	Registration Number	
Center		Date	

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	
1(a)	10		<p>1. Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code). उत्तर पुस्तिका में सूचनाएं भरना आवश्यक है (नाम, प्रश्न-पत्र कोड, विद्यार्थी क्रमांक आदि)।</p> <p>2. There are <b>TWELVE</b> questions printed in <b>ENGLISH &amp; HINDI</b> इसमें बारह प्रश्न हैं अंग्रेजी और हिन्दी में छपे हैं।</p> <p>3. <b>All questions are compulsory.</b> सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।</p> <p>4. The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it. प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।</p> <p>5. Answers must be written in the medium authorized in the Admission Certificate, which must be stated clearly on the cover of this Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one. प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश पत्र में किया गया है और उस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यूसीए) पुस्तिका के मुख्य पृष्ठ पर अंकित निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। उल्लिखित माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिए गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।</p> <p>6. Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to. प्रश्नों में शब्द सीमा, जहाँ विनिर्दिष्ट है, का अनुसरण किया जाना चाहिए।</p> <p>7. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।</p>
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		
6(a)	10		
6(b)	10		
6(c)	10		
7	20		
8	20		
9	20		
10	20		
11	20		
12	20		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			
Signature of Examiner			

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## EVALUATION INDICATORS

1. Contextual Competence
2. Content Competence
3. Language Competence
4. Introduction Competence
5. Structure - Presentation Competence
6. Conclusion Competence

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**All the Best**

## SECTION - A

1. (a) The ideals of 'Dhamma' by Ashoka present key learnings on public morality. Discuss. Also, state their relevance for public servants.

(150 words) 10

अशोक द्वारा प्रतिपादित 'धम्म' के आदर्श सार्वजनिक नैतिकता पर मुख्य शिक्षाएं प्रस्तुत करते हैं। विवेचना कीजिए। साथ ही, लोक सेवकों के लिए उनकी प्रासंगिकता को वर्णित कीजिए।

- Ashoka, the Emperor of the Maurya Empire was the first king to issue communications with his subjects through his edicts

pillar                      major rock                      minor rock

They mostly centered around the philosophy of Dhamma, which Ashoka sought to spread in order to integrate vast swatches of territory.

### Key Learnings of Public Morality

1. Ahimsa / Non-violence, especially towards animals; not killing them for pleasure.
2. The king's public welfare measures:  
planting trees for shade, going on annual tours.

3. Dhamma includes respecting one's elders, behaving courteously; respecting members of society.
4. Another aspect his edicts focussed on was: tolerance and acceptance of religious and sectoral diversity eg: Schism Edict-

### Relevance for Public Servants

- The king conveys his ideal state to be driven by paternal welfare  
↓  
all men are my children;  
∴ it consists of impartiality and justice.
- Socialisation process and inculcating values is very important as to not to regret it later.
- Values of empathy, compassion, tolerance need to be promoted and instilled in society.

1. (b) There is a need for an effective climate governance structure within the broad framework of corporate governance. Discuss. (150 words) 10

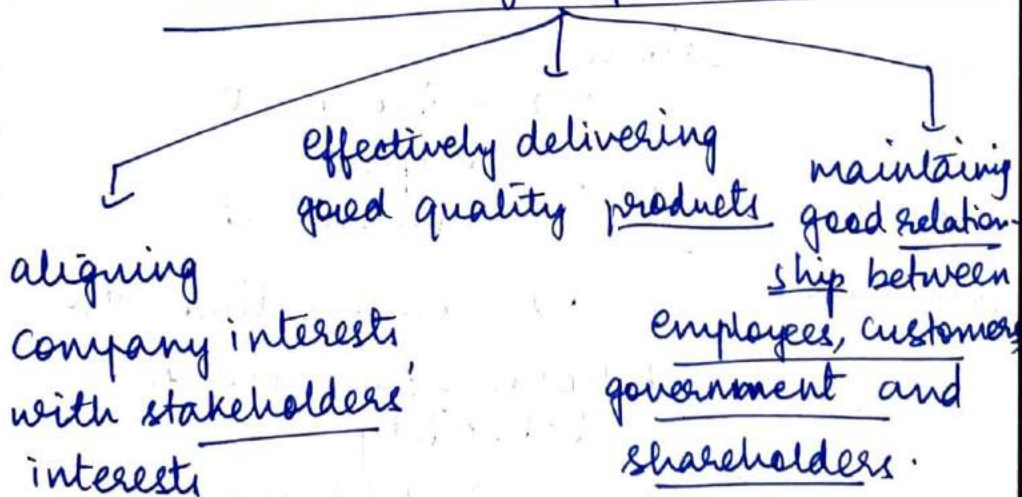
कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस के व्यापक ढांचे के भीतर एक प्रभावी क्लाइमेट गवर्नेंस संरचना की आवश्यकता है। विवेचना कीजिए।

## Corporate governance



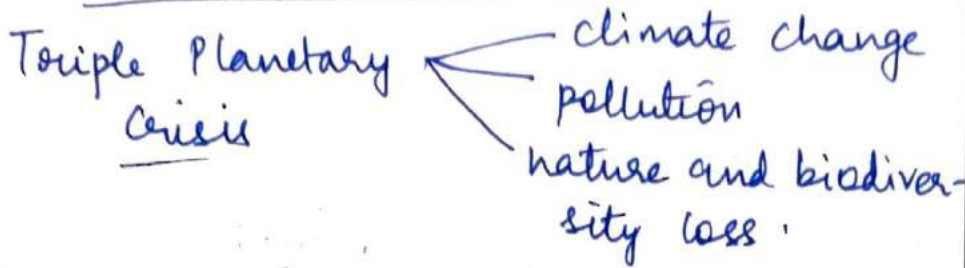
According to Cadbury Commission:  
the system by which a company  
attains goals and objectives.

## Framework of Corporate Governance

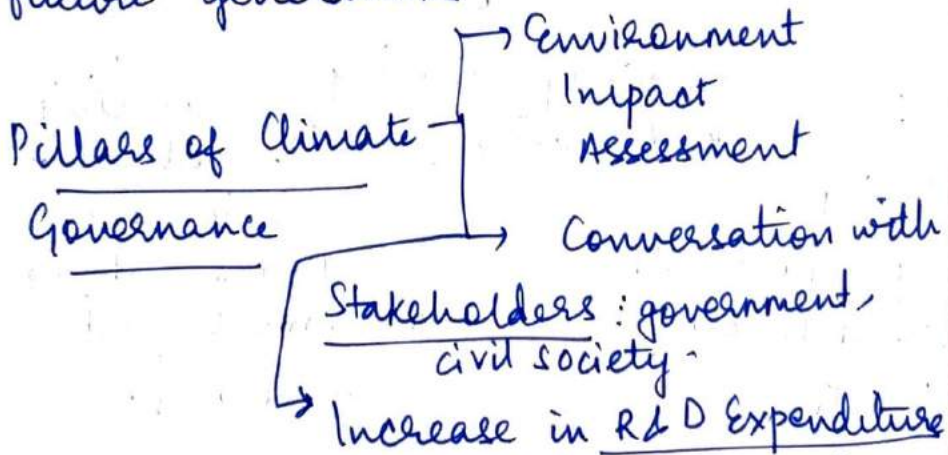


In the 21st Century, there is urgent need for governance, in both public and private sectors to be re-evaluated with climate change in mind.

## Climate Governance



Keeping the aforementioned in mind, governance needs to be tweaked to suit the needs of the present and future generations:



eg: India spends less than 3% on R&D as compared to 13% in developed nations.

Thus, there is overwhelming urgency to act on climate governance and focus on long-term goals in corporate sector.

2. (a) Family values influence the decisions individuals make both within the family structure and outside of it. Do you agree with the statement? Justify with relevant examples. (150 words) 10

पारिवारिक मूल्य उन निर्णयों को प्रभावित करते हैं जो व्यक्ति द्वारा परिवार की संरचना के भीतर और उसके बाहर दोनों में लिए जाते हैं। क्या आप इस कथन से सहमत हैं? प्रासंगिक उदाहरणों के साथ औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए।

Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam has said that the future of our country is in the hands of the mother, the father and the teachers.

The family, school and friend circle are the most important socialising units of one's life.

### Family Structure in India

focuses on collectivism over individualism is patrilarchal values the word of elders over individual expression.

Values a family inculcates such as: truth, justice, compassion, kindness, empathy all play a huge role in an individual's life.

## Change of Family Structure

Joint → Nuclear has also rapidly changed socialisation process.

## How does family influence decision-making?

→ Choosing a career often aligns with family values and situation.

Eg: A doctor's child is often more motivated to follow in their parent's footsteps.

→ Decisions about marriage, children etc; in one's personal life are also dependent on family values.

Eg: Caste endogamy, gotra exogamy, following traditions.

→ At the same time; bigotry; parochialism; sexism and casteism can also be deeply entrenched due to family's upbringing.

Eg: women of the family not allowed to work; participating in rallies on extremist issues.

2. (b) 'Niti' must be more concerned with 'nyaya' i.e. the elimination of removable injustices rather than defining a perfectly just society. Discuss.  
(150 words) 10

'नीति' को एक पूर्णरूपेण न्यायसंगत समाज के चित्रण के बजाय 'न्याय' अर्थात् दूर किए जाने योग्य अन्यायों की समाप्ति पर अधिक केंद्रित होना चाहिए। विवेचना कीजिए।

Niti is simply translated into policy or law; whereas nyaya is complete justice in society.

The ideal in Hindu religion is that: even bearing witness to anyaya (injustice) is an injustice in itself.

Therefore, a state that does not seek to eliminate injustices will remain unjust.

For eg: The Constitution-makers stipulated on several laws seeking to eradicate injustice on the basis of caste, gender, religion, language etc.

In doing so, we took a step towards a more just society.

## Laws to target Injustice?

A law / policy has statutory backing to effect reform in society; while it may sometimes present an ideal state worth achieving (eg: Directive Principles); its burden ultimately falls on the civil servant - the agent of social change.

Through a bottom-up approach; and tweaking policies to suit it to the needs of weaker sections, we might be able to achieve a just society.

For eg: In the COVID-19 crisis, the BMC created the Dharavi model of containment in a heavily populated slum wrought of injustices.

Thus, niti and nyaya are intimately connected.

3. (a) While it may seem restrictive, anonymity is one of the greatest strengths of the civil services. Comment in the context of growth of social media in recent times. (150 words) 10

हालांकि, यह प्रतिबंधात्मक प्रतीत हो सकता है किंतु अनामिकता लोक सेवाओं की सबसे बड़ी ताकत है। हाल के दिनों में सोशल मीडिया के विकास के संदर्भ में टिप्पणी कीजिए।

Moral aptitude is a necessary requisite for a public functionary and an important element is the aversion to the public gaze while carrying out one's duty.

Anonymity : Bane or Boon?

Anonymity is the principle of non-recognition of one's work.

It literally means without a name

It displays — the willingness to act without sensationalisation.

Eg: Through the Aspirational Districts Program, civil servants are working to better several socio economic indicators.

However, they will hardly get their due share of national plaudits.

Boon : → By not publicising work, we prevent unnecessary heroism attached to civil servants

→ More work done gets without media/political pressure as there are less eyes on you.

Bane : → Social media has become an echo chamber; thus, erasing the concept of anonymity.

→ Its growth has not yet reached lower levels of bureaucratic work; and therefore has not sullied good intentions or amplified local news

However, social media can be tapped into by bureaucrats through effective public relations with civil society, while retaining good character and transparency.

3. (b) Corporate governance and business ethics are key factors influencing investment decisions and determining the flow of capital worldwide. In this context, discuss the inter-relationship between corporate governance and business ethics. (150 words) 10

कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस और व्यावसायिक नैतिकता निवेश संबंधी निर्णयों को प्रभावित करने तथा विश्व भर में पूंजी के प्रवाह को निर्धारित करने वाले प्रमुख कारक हैं। इस संदर्भ में, कॉर्पोरेट गवर्नेंस और व्यावसायिक नैतिकता के बीच अंतर-संबंध पर चर्चा कीजिए।

Corporate Governance - the rules and regulations in place in commercial ventures

Business Ethics : a set of principles/values governing the functioning of a commercial venture

How do they affect investment decisions?

- The TATA - DOCOMO deal was finalised on the key tenets of trust in corporate ventures
- Similarly, the lack of sound business ethics leads to the dominance of Big Tech

Companies:

Eg: Meta overlooking social media giants; Instagram, Facebook, Whatsapp

Corporate Governance ↔ Business Ethics

Sound ethics leads to sound economics.

→ Shell companies clearly lack ethical standards, resulting in an inordinate flow of capital to tax havens

↓  
increasing money laundering and misuse of funds

→ Technology companies tap into algorithms to mine data; profile it and use it against their customers; all while benefitting themselves.

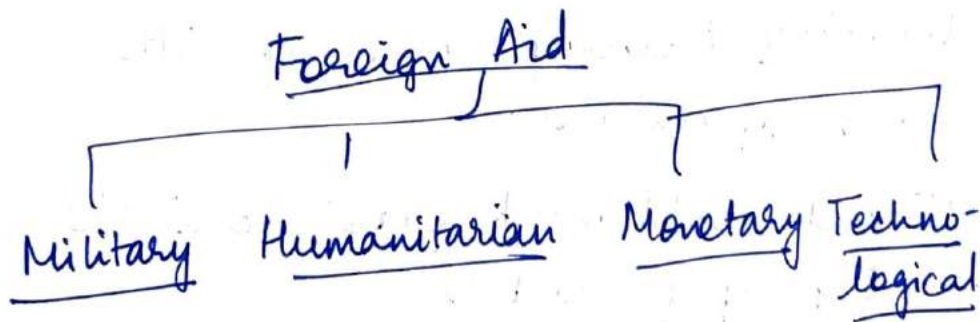
→ Big Tech lacks sense of responsibility as they continue Base Erosion and Profit Shifting benefitting developed nations.

Therefore, governance and ethics are intimately related in companies; the absence of one leads to an absence of the other.

4. (a) Examine the issue of foreign aid in global politics from an ethical perspective (150 words) 10

वैश्विक राजनीति में विदेशी सहायता के मुद्दे का नैतिक दृष्टिकोण से परीक्षण कीजिए।

Foreign aid is the transfer of monetary or other aid unilaterally to other nations without an outright demand for equal returns.



1. Military Aid : While it alleviates emergencies in several countries, it also takes the form of intervention. Eg: NATO in Afghanistan; thus leading to dependence on foreign aid and complete loss of autonomy on the part of the beneficiary.

2. Humanitarian

Eg: food and disaster relief aid through  
World Food Programme; Red Cross etc.

This is based on the principle of  
Responsibility To Protect (R2P) and

is highly ethical and non-interfering.  
Eg: India's help to Nepal post-earthquake.

3. Monetary → always comes up with  
certain expectations.

Eg: IMF and World Bank loans necessitate  
opening up of markets.

Eg: China's inadvertent loans to Sri Lanka  
and Djibouti have ended up in debt  
traps and economic crises.

4. Technological: boosts relations and  
props up the beneficiary's own abilities;  
contributing to their human capital.

Eg: Waiver on Intellectual Property for vaccines.

Thus, foreign aid is of several types;  
and its ethical standards depend on the  
means and the ends.

4. (b) Explaining the meaning of media ethics, discuss why it is a prerequisite for democracy. . (150 words) 10

मीडिया एथिक्स का अर्थ समझाते हुए, विवेचना कीजिए कि यह लोकतंत्र के लिए एक आवश्यक शर्त क्यों है।

Media ethics is the set of principles and moral values that impact the functioning of press and mass media.

### Pillars of Media Ethics

#### - Responsible Reporting

↳ should not spread enmity, hatred in society.

#### - Truth and Honesty

In the wake of fake news, it is essential that news is verified and honest.

#### - For the Good of Society

Media's function is to spread awareness and not to spread disaffection or disturb social harmony.

#### - Impartial and Objective

Reporting cannot be favouring certain sections of society or arouse ill-will.

A democracy requires freedom of press as it encourages representation of multiple elements in society, guarantees personal and societal growth and acts as a check on administration.

However,

Democracy Requires Ethical Media

1. Fake news peddling has increased disharmony; brought down trustworthiness of media
  2. Politicisation of media has led to violent outbursts in society and harms relations with other states.
  3. Fringe and extremist elements on social media have turned it into an echo chamber, encouraging boycott trends.
- ∴ dropping ethical standards are causing harm to credible media and society;  
a tolerant culture is necessary for the survival of democracy.

5. (a) What do you understand by a situation of 'crisis of conscience'? Also, explain how a public servant can deal with such a situation. '

(150 words) 10

"विवेक का संकट" जैसी स्थिति से आप क्या समझते हैं? साथ ही, बताइए कि एक लोक सेवक ऐसी स्थिति से कैसे निपट सकता है।

### Crisis of Conscience

↓

A situation wherein our conscience fails us; we cannot choose between right and wrong.

Eg: Begging as a Profession

Outlawing begging is required for betterment of society

It would bring people dependent on it totally down, depriving them from what little they earn.

In the career of a public servant, one comes upon several such situations with morally grey areas.

However, the very act of choosing a course of action determines one's character.

## How to deal with Crisis of Conscience?

→ Evaluate situation from multiple dimensions, and decide upon stakeholders.

In begging issue - beggars, administration, general public, law and order.

→ Come up with several options and deliberate upon them, have open, honest conversations with stakeholders, colleagues, civil society, seniors and political executive.

→ Choose a course of action that will end in a win-win situation.

For eg: Rehabilitate beggars area-wise, and start skilling and training for them.

Therefore, how a public servant acts in a crisis of conscience reflects on his willingness to serve and his Character.

5. (b) The opportunities and threats created by emerging technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) require leaders across business, government and civil society to understand the importance of values and ethics in technological development. Elucidate. (150 words) 10

कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता (AI) जैसी उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों द्वारा उत्पन्न अवसरों और खतरों ने यह आवश्यक बना दिया है कि व्यवसाय, सरकार और नागरिक समाज के अग्रणी व्यक्ति तकनीकी विकास में मूल्यों एवं नैतिकता के महत्व को समझें। स्पष्ट कीजिए।

Artificial Intelligence - computational system that sometimes makes intelligent decisions on behalf of a human user.

For eg: Robotics, Computers, self-driving Cars.

∴ AI can be different according to needs.

Opportunities created by AI

- Eased life to a great extent and has made it convenient. Eg: Alexa system
- Made scientific and mathematical experimentation easier.
- Information is now at everyone's fingertips; has bridged digital divide.
- Increased pace of globalisation, flow of capital through Internet.

- has made delivery of public services easier; eg: CoWin Platform - vaccines -

### Threats posed by emerging technologies

- Since AI is not a being with values or morals of its own, it often operates in morally grey areas

Eg: Algorithms can increase data mining, infringe privacy.

- AI can nudge individuals and tamper with behavioural autonomy.

Eg: Cambridge Analytica and influence on voting.

Dialogue — Government  
— Industry  
— Academia

needs to happen if we want to prevent a useful invention turning the tide against us.

Eg: The recent LAMDA turning sentiment is concerning news and a set of global rules and standards needs to be set urgently; akin to UNCLOS.

6. (a) It is argued that the Indian bureaucracy suffers from indecision and risk aversion. Do you agree? Justify with logical arguments. (150 words) 10

यह तर्क दिया जाता है कि भारतीय नौकरशाही अनिर्णय और जोखिम से बचने की प्रवृत्ति से ग्रस्त है। क्या आप सहमत हैं? उचित तर्कों के साथ औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए।

- For European theorist Hegel, bureaucracy was the most important institution in a state.
- Sardar Patel classified the Indian bureaucracy as a steel-frame
- Both these imageries create a rigid, permanent conception of the bureaucracy.

### Legal Interventions

- Conduct Rules for the Services were notified in 1964, 1968 and since then, there have been very few revisions in the requirements of a civil servant.
- The Administrative Reforms Commission-II suggested a host of reforms and upheavals in the structure, however, not many implemented.

- The Draft Public Services Bill, 2007 too failed due to lack of consensus on several issues.

Due to the government's inability to bring about major reforms and the bureaucracy's resistance to change, issues of hierarchy, recruitment, training, domain specialisation etc. still remain the same as they were decades ago.

- This has led to the bureaucracy becoming stiffer with time, and inflicted with red-tape and several hurdles.

Further, the Groups B, C, D have been neglected even as they bear a great load.

- The lack of re-inventing a new structure has led to dozance and risk aversion which is necessary to overcome if we are to embrace a new India.

6. (b) Corruption endangers not only the quality of governance but also threatens the very foundation of our society. Elucidate. (150 words) 10

भ्रष्टाचार न केवल शासन की गुणवत्ता के समक्ष संकट उत्पन्न करता है बल्कि हमारे समाज की वास्तविक नींव को भी खतरे में डालता है। सविस्तार वर्णन कीजिए।

Corruption is the misuse and misappropriation of funds, accompanied by wasteful expenditure and berbery.

Today, it is not only an administrative but also an economic and social necessity.

### Quality of Governance

1. Corruption diverts taxpayers' money to personal causes.
2. Increases nepotism, favouritism, thus displacing merit.
3. Public welfare takes a huge hit.
4. Civil servants do not work for common good anymore; it becomes a career for personal profit.

5. Sets a bad example for entry-level administrators who are filled with hope and desire for service.

A civil servant is essentially a conduit between government and society; and is a very looked-up to member of society.

### Foundation of Society

1. In indulging in corruption, public trust in government decreases.
2. It affects growth of social capital.
3. Children look upon the profession as that of dishonesty and become averse to it.
4. Ruins the image of other honest functionaries.

Therefore, corruption has an all-encompassing effect on governance, economy and society and risks creating mass discontent.

6. (c) Discuss the foundational values of civil services, which are prerequisites in building a responsive public administration. Also, highlight how Mission Karmayogi aspires to make public administration more responsive.

(150 words) 10

लोक सेवाओं के उन बुनियादी मूल्यों पर चर्चा कीजिए, जो एक उत्तरदायी लोक प्रशासन के निर्माण के लिए आवश्यक शर्त हैं। साथ ही, इस तथ्य को भी रेखांकित कीजिए कि मिशन कर्मयोगी किस प्रकार लोक प्रशासन को और अधिक उत्तरदायी बनाने की आकांक्षा रखता है।

Civil Service is governed by certain values; necessary for maintaining a stable society and polity and furthering common good.

### Foundational Values

1. Integrity - complete integration of one's ideals, thoughts and behaviours; sticking to something that may end up unprofitable so long as it is right.
2. Impartiality - Treating every member of society equally and serving their needs.
3. Non-Partisanship - In the face of changing political executive, remaining honest,

and uninvolved in the political process

4. Responsiveness - a civil servant must act quickly and efficiently delivering public services to society.

These are essential prerequisites for a successful and responsive administration.

Mission Karmayogi seeks to enhance

these very attributes through an overhaul of the bureaucracy and encourages a 21st Century approach to problems of the modern age.

## SECTION - B

In the following questions, carefully study the cases presented and then answer the questions that follow (in around 250 words):

7. You come across a news report of a state 'X', which has a considerable number of school going children suffering from malnourishment. To overcome this, the state recently rolled out a policy to introduce eggs in mid-day meals in schools. However, some parents, teachers and a few religious groups have protested against the move. The report states that the Minister of Education of state 'X' has assured the public of a reversal in the policy. You are aware that this may be because elections are approaching in the state and the party in power may not want to antagonise a particular religious group, which is its key supporter.

In light of this, answer the following:

- (a) Highlight the stakeholders in the given case study.  
(b) Examine the options available in the given situation.  
(c) According to you, what is the best course of action and why? (20)

आपको एक राज्य 'X' के बारे में एक न्यूज़ रिपोर्ट प्राप्त होती है, जिसमें काफी संख्या में स्कूल जाने वाले बच्चे कुपोषण से पीड़ित हैं। इस पर नियंत्रण प्राप्त करने हेतु, उक्त राज्य ने हाल ही में स्कूलों में मध्याह्न भोजन में अंडे को शामिल करने की एक नीति लागू की है। हालांकि, कुछ माता-पिता व शिक्षकों और कुछ धार्मिक समूहों ने इस कदम का विरोध किया है। रिपोर्ट में कहा गया है कि राज्य 'X' के शिक्षा मंत्री ने जनता को नीति में बदलाव का आश्वासन दिया है। आप जानते हैं कि ऐसा इसलिए हो सकता है क्योंकि राज्य में चुनाव नजदीक आ रहे हैं और सत्तारूढ़ दल एक विशेष धार्मिक समूह जोकि पार्टी का प्रमुख समर्थक है, उसका वो विरोधी नहीं बनना चाहती है।

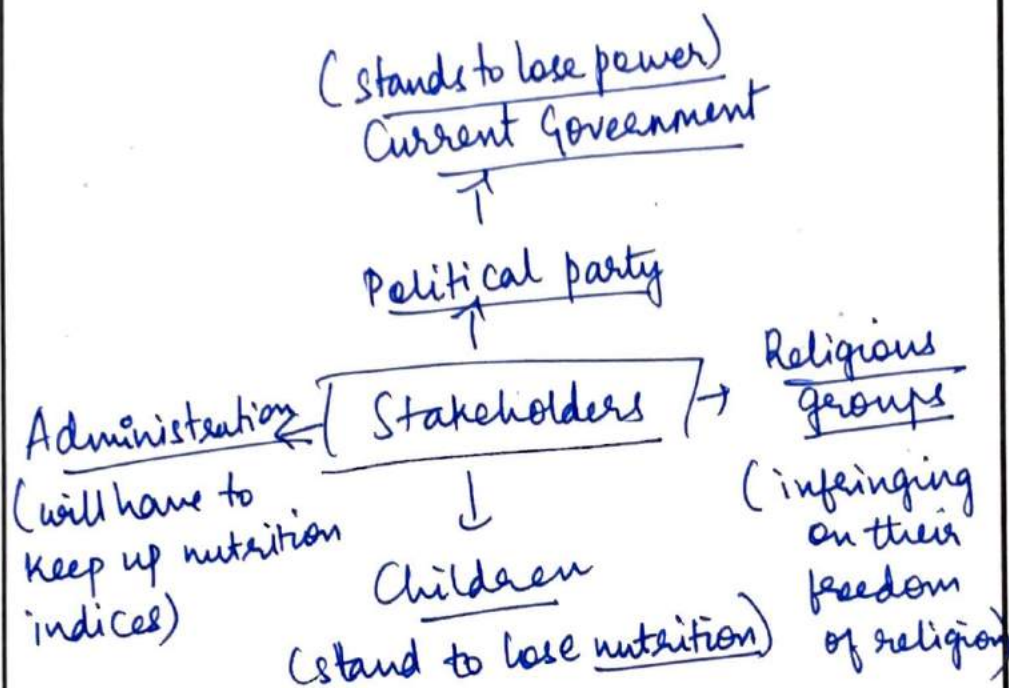
इसके आलोक में निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

- (a) प्रदत्त प्रकरण में शामिल हितधारकों का उल्लेख कीजिए।  
(b) दी गई स्थिति में उपलब्ध विकल्पों का परीक्षण कीजिए।  
(c) आपके अनुसार, सबसे उपयुक्त कार्रवाई क्या है और क्यों?

The ethical conflict arising here is:

Public good vs Political Profit

Public good vs Hurting religious sentiments



### Courses of Action Possible :

1. The policy can be reversed completely; as the party does not want to risk losing out on votes of important group.
2. The policy can be reinforced by administrators on the basis of scientific and health benefits and continued.
3. The policy can be tweaked so that people who eat egg can avail of it

while other children could be given another source of protein that has the same nutrition as that of eggs.

### Best Course Available

This is a delicate situation to find oneself in.

① In Option 1; the political party stands to gain the most; and religious polarisation occurs too. It is not a sensible option as it is not a desirable situation for societal harmony or children welfare.

② In Option 2, the administrators are introducing an element of reason and logic and encouraging scientific temper. However, it does nothing to alleviate the concerns of the religious group.

and infringes upon Articles 25 and 19.

Therefore, this is not a desirable option.

3. In Option 3, it emerges as a win-win situation. Assuming State X, is not one with non-vegetarian majority, it will be easy to substitute <sup>eggs</sup> it with an adequate portion of pulses and legumes.

The political party will appease one religious group and also offer another option to their children.

Thus, neither religious sentiments nor child welfare will be compromised.

In the long term, monitoring mechanisms can be established to make sure both groups of children are receiving the same nutritional amounts.

8. Recently, the government has proposed a bill to increase the age of marriage for women from 18 to 21 years. It has been argued that it will help women improve their nutritional status, lower maternal mortality rate and improve the overall health status of women. However, some critics have stated that the proposed law would be counterproductive to women's cause and the desired objectives will not be met. In this context, answer the following questions:

(a) What effect will an increase in the age of marriage have on women in India?

(b) Can legislation be used as an effective tool for social change?

(c) Discuss other agents that can be used for social change in this context.

(20)

हाल ही में, सरकार ने महिलाओं के लिए विवाह की आयु 18 वर्ष से बढ़ाकर 21 वर्ष करने हेतु एक विधेयक प्रस्तावित किया है। यह तर्क दिया गया है कि इससे महिलाओं को उनके पोषण स्तर में सुधार करने, मातृ मृत्यु दर को कम करने और महिलाओं की समग्र स्वास्थ्य स्थिति में सुधार करने में सहायता प्राप्त होगी। हालांकि, कुछ आलोचकों का मत है कि प्रस्तावित कानून महिलाओं के समग्र कल्याण के प्रतिकूल होगा और वांछित उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति नहीं होगी। इस संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

(a) भारत में विवाह की आयु में वृद्धि का महिलाओं पर क्या प्रभाव पड़ेगा?

(b) क्या कानून को सामाजिक परिवर्तन के लिए एक प्रभावी उपकरण के रूप में प्रयुक्त किया जा सकता है?

(c) इस संदर्भ में, सामाजिक परिवर्तन के लिए उपयोग किए जा सकने वाले अन्य घटकों की विवेचना कीजिए।

The ethical conflict here in question is:

Women's Freedom of  
Emancipation vs Personal  
Choice

## Effect of Increase of Marriage Age

### Merits:

1. Will encourage women to go for higher education or upskilling courses.
2. Will open up vocational and economic opportunities → ↑ labour force participation of women;  
increasing GDP
3. Will lead to their financial freedom and therefore, greater personal choices regarding
  - age of marriage
  - contraceptive use
  - child-bearing age
  - decisions on child's well-being
  - greater autonomy in household.

Demerits:

1. Will bring about a coercive sanction on marriage laws.
2. Will impede personal choice of marriage  
Eg: In cases where family disapproves, couples run away; the law might bring them under heavy scrutiny and return them to her parents.
3. Can lead to infantilisation of major women

However, the prospective merits outweigh the prospective demerits as mortality, malnutrition will also decrease.

Legislation as a tool for social change

↳ The Prevention of Child Marriage Act (PCMA)

sought to eradicate the social evil of child marriage.

Even when its eradication has a legal sanction, these marriages are valid in the eyes of the law and can only be stopped; not invalidated.

Moreover, it still continues to have a social sanction and remains prevalent.

However, history teaches us that law brings about social change.

Eg: Prohibition of sati; led to sati being regarded as a social evil.

Eg: The outlawing of sex-selective abortions has also led to a significant drop in these practices.

At the same time, laws criminalising dowry, sexual harassment have not brought about large-scale change.

This implies that practices continue in society as long as they have popular sanction; whether it is historical, social or religious in nature.

Thus, it is unlikely that raising marriage age will be a harbinger of change, especially as marriages will still be held as valid.

### c) Other Agents of Social Change

- 1) Family - Parents and family unit can have a role in increasing marriage age through progressive upbringing.

- 2) School and Friends - Teachers and friends can also dissuade girls from succumbing to pressures by society/family.
- 3) Village Unit: The Gram Panchayats can act as effectors of social change; so can the Gram Sabha.
- 4) Administrators: Have a huge role in dissuasion as well as disciplinary action.
- 5) NGOs - Several such groups work on the ground trying to reach the reality.
- 6) Government - can carry out media campaigns.
- 7) Art and Cinema can act as a medium of education.

9. Climate change not only threatens our ecosystems but also undermines the foundation of our fundamental rights, deepens inequalities and creates new forms of injustice. Adapting to climate change and trying to mitigate its impacts are not just a matter of scientific knowledge and political will but also demand a broader view of a complex, inter-related situation. Human induced climate change has brought in several ethical dimensions not just in causing climate change but also in the role and responsibility in mitigating it.

(a) Highlight the ethical issues arising out of human-induced climate change.

(b) What ethical principles should form the basis of global action on climate change? (20)

जलवायु परिवर्तन से न केवल हमारे पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र को खतरा है बल्कि यह हमारे मौलिक अधिकारों की नींव को भी कमजोर करता है, असमानताओं में वृद्धि करता है और अन्याय के नए रूपों को उत्पन्न करता है। जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रति अनुकूलन और इसके प्रभावों के शमन का प्रयास केवल वैज्ञानिक ज्ञान और राजनीतिक इच्छाशक्ति के विषय नहीं हैं। इसके लिए जटिल और परस्पर रूप से संबंधित परिस्थितियों के संबंध में एक व्यापक दृष्टिकोण अपनाना आवश्यक है। मानव जनित जलवायु परिवर्तन ने जलवायु परिवर्तन के कारकों के साथ-साथ जलवायु परिवर्तन का शमन करने संबंधी भूमिका और उत्तरदायित्व से संबंधित कई नैतिक आयामों को भी उजागर किया है।

(a) मानव जनित जलवायु परिवर्तन से उत्पन्न होने वाले नैतिक मुद्दों को रेखांकित कीजिए।

(b) जलवायु परिवर्तन पर वैश्विक कार्रवाई के आधार कौन-से नैतिक सिद्धांत होने चाहिए?

The ethical conflict in  
question is :

Environmental vs Human  
Good Development

a) Ethical Issues arising out of Climate Change

- Anthropocentrism becomes the dominant ideology, leaving concern of nature and other plant and animal species completely behind.
- The razing of forests for agriculture also brings about displacement of indigenous people, their practices and belief systems and equal uprooting history.
- The lack of empathy on the part of the developed nations for developing nations is concerning.

The people have not yet availed their deserved opportunities yet and have to bear the brunt of adapting to new, renewable technologies just because it is the mandate of the First World.

Worse still are Small Island Developing States whose very existence is hanging by a loose thread given the predicament we are in.

Machiavellian ethics of putting national interest first has resulted in the USA pulling out of the Paris Pact; with disregard to climate science.

## Principles for Global Action

- The Sustainable Development Goals will play a huge role in determining the course of our planetary future depending on their achievement.
- The time is high for collective action on climate change and the collaboration of several players, state as well as non-state is necessary.
- The principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities should play an instrumental part in deciding the different course of action for developing countries. It must come as an

acknowledgement of colonial  
past on the part of the European  
continent.

- Countries to be most affected  
should be given a proportionately  
larger seat at the table

The USA, EU cannot be major  
decision-makers, but Asian,  
African and island nations should.

- The principle of non-refoulement  
might just become a universal  
reality in the face of climate  
exoduses and emergencies.

Therefore, crisis must be fought on  
several ethical planks for it to have  
any effect

10. You are the Chairperson of Staff Selection Commission of a state. Recently, an exam for recruitment to the position of sub-Inspectors was conducted by the Commission. But a video of some students using hi-tech devices like spy-mics, and placing "solvers" to cheat in the exam by hiding bluetooth devices in wig, has been surfacing on the internet. Also, this is not an isolated incident; many instances of organized cheating scandals have shocked the state in recent years. Students are agitated and demanding cancellation of the exam and there is pressure on you to resign. However, your daughter had also appeared in this exam and is confident of clearing it. There are many other students who had waited for this exam for a long time and are hopeful of clearing it with honest efforts. Whatever decision the Commission takes is bound to affect the career of a large number of candidates who appeared in the exam, including your own daughter.

(a) Highlight the ethical issues concerned in the case.

(b) Why is cheating in examinations prevalent in many states across India?

(c) What measures would you take to make sure that a similar situation does not arise in future? (20)

आप एक राज्य के कर्मचारी चयन आयोग के अध्यक्ष हैं। हाल ही में, आयोग द्वारा सब-इंस्पेक्टर के पद पर भर्ती के लिए एक परीक्षा आयोजित की गई थी। लेकिन कुछ छात्रों द्वारा स्पाई-माईक्रोफोन जैसे हार्ड-टेक उपकरणों का उपयोग करने और ब्लूटूथ डिवाइसों को विग में छिपाकर परीक्षा में "सोल्वर्स या फर्जी परीक्षार्थी" बैठाने का एक वीडियो इंटरनेट पर सामने आ रहा है। साथ ही, यह कोई अकेली घटना नहीं है; हाल के वर्षों में संगठित तरीके से नकलबाजी की घटना के कई उदाहरणों ने राज्य को भयाकुल कर दिया है। छात्र विरोध कर रहे हैं और परीक्षा रद्द करने की मांग कर रहे हैं तथा आपके ऊपर इस्तीफा देने का दबाव है। हालांकि, आपकी बेटी भी इस परीक्षा में शामिल हुई थी और वो इसे पास करने के लिए आश्वस्त है। ऐसे कई अन्य छात्र हैं जिन्होंने लंबे समय से इस परीक्षा का इंतजार किया था और ईमानदार प्रयासों के साथ इसे पास करने की उम्मीद कर रहे हैं। आयोग जो भी निर्णय लेगा, वह आपकी अपनी बेटी सहित बड़ी संख्या में परीक्षा में बैठने वाले उम्मीदवारों के करियर को प्रभावित करेगा।

(a) इस प्रकरण से संबंधित नैतिक मुद्दों को रेखांकित कीजिए।

(b) भारत भर के कई राज्यों में परीक्षाओं में नकल क्यों जारी है?

(c) भविष्य में ऐसी स्थिति उत्पन्न न हो, यह सुनिश्चित करने के लिए आप क्या उपाय करेंगे?

The ethical conflict at hand is:

Respecting honesty vs Punishing  
of a majority a minority

### Ethical Issues Concerned

- Out of a probable thousand, some twenty / thirty are likely to have cheated. Cancelling results would mean dishonouring a disproportionately large numerical majority.
- Keeping aside my personal motivations as a parent, several hundreds have written the exam with complete dedication and integrity. In cancelling results, I would be unfair.
- However, it is necessary to get a hold of the candidates who have cheated.

Their results must be nullified and they must be disqualified for any future exams.

## Cheating: A Prevalent Issue

Cheating has existed as long as honesty has; it is an evergreen problem, only its means keep changing.

### Why do people cheat?

- It is the easy way out, instead of the right way.
- It does not require much time or effort.

Having said that, it is rampant as an organisational problem and has become a money-exacting device for many who indulge in trickery.

### Short-term measures

1. Proper investigation.



2. Questioning of candidates who cheated to get a list of those involved.



3. Profiling of devices that have been used



4. Blacklisting names from future exams.

5. listing devices to be checked  
for in the future.

### Long-Term Measures

1. Better monitoring +  
checking mechanisms  
↓
2. Better sensitisation  
of appearing candidates -  
↓
3. Encouraging honesty  
through open dialogue  
with students of the  
state  
↓
4. Targeting organisations  
who help people cheat.

11. You are a young officer posted as a Sub-Divisional Magistrate in a backward district. You receive a complaint against the appointment of a Dalit woman in a village school for cooking food under the Mid-Day Meal scheme by parents of some students. The parents are putting immense pressure on the school management to discontinue the services of the woman concerned on the basis of long-standing social norms of caste impurity. They also say that if the management fails to take a favourable decision, keeping in mind the prevailing social customs, they will convene a village assembly and take action against the woman and her family members, including boycotting them socially.

Based on the above information, address the following:

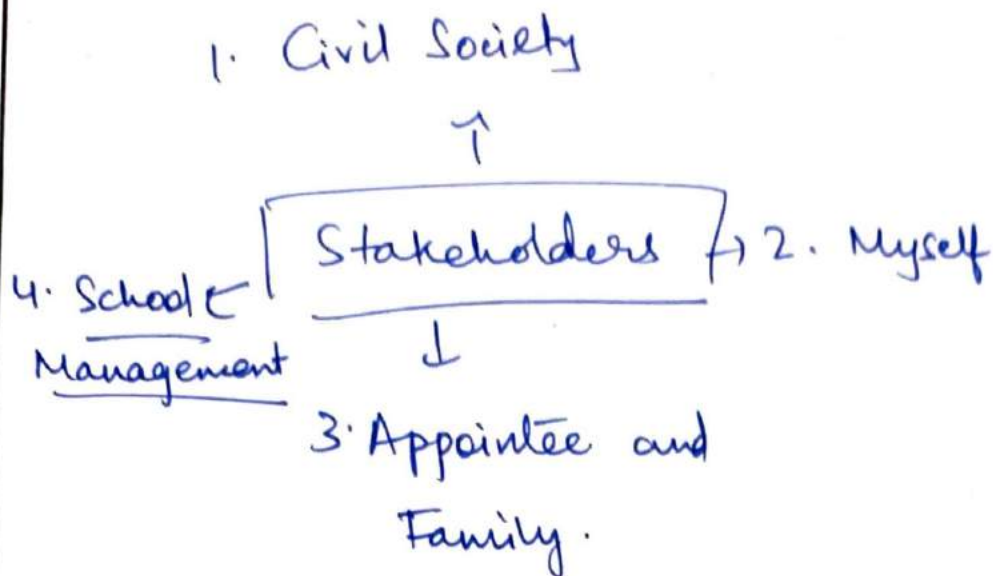
- (a) Identify the issues involved in the given case study.  
(b) Highlighting the reasons behind continuing caste discrimination, discuss the steps which you will take to resolve the present issue. (20)

आप एक पिछड़े जिले में सब-डिविजनल मजिस्ट्रेट के पद पर पदस्थापित युवा अधिकारी हैं। आपको कुछ छात्रों के माता-पिता द्वारा मध्याह्न भोजन योजना के तहत खाना पकाने के लिए एक गांव के स्कूल में एक दलित महिला की नियुक्ति के विरुद्ध शिकायत प्राप्त होती है। वे माता-पिता लंबे समय से चली आ रही जातिगत अशुद्धता के सामाजिक मानदंडों के आधार पर संबंधित महिला की सेवाओं को बंद करने के लिए स्कूल प्रबंधन पर भारी दबाव डाल रहे हैं। उनका यह भी कहना है कि यदि प्रबंधन प्रचलित सामाजिक रीति-रिवाजों को ध्यान में रखते हुए अनुकूल निर्णय लेने में विफल रहता है, तो वे एक ग्राम सभा आयोजित करेंगे और महिला एवं उसके परिवार के सदस्यों के विरुद्ध सामाजिक बहिष्कार सहित कार्रवाई करेंगे। उपर्युक्त जानकारी के आधार पर, निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

- (a) प्रदत्त प्रकरण में शामिल मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए।  
(b) जातिगत भेदभाव जारी रहने के कारणों को रेखांकित करते हुए, वर्तमान मुद्दे को हल करने के लिए आप जो कदम उठाएंगे, उस पर चर्चा कीजिए।

The ethical conflict at hand is:

Protecting Social Sentiment vs Eradication of Social Evil



1. Could stand to be provoked and instigated.
2. Could stand to be inquired into for disciplinary proceedings.
3. Could stand to be socially boycotted and alienated.
4. Could stand to succumb to social pressure.

### Options available:

1. I could allow the appointee to be removed from her post
2. I could allow appointee to continue in position, thus bringing upon the school management and myself great discontent
3. I could initiate a conversation with parents, management and the appointee.

### Best Course

1. I would be failing to abide by constitutional principles of equality and justice

and would be guilty  
of derelection of duty.  
I would also subject the  
appointee to social shame.

2. In doing so, I would  
risk a law and order  
problem and also endangers  
the appointee as well as her  
family's personal safety.

This would result in a  
direct infringement of Article 17.

3. This would be the most  
suitable option. Social change  
is much easier to achieve with  
conversation. I could make  
the parents engage with

the appointees, convincing them of her capability and at the same time, making them aware of the wrongs that they are committing, and letting them off with a stern warning.

Caste discrimination continues due to the deep entrenchment of societal beliefs and the religious sanction of caste

Measures to weed out this issue:

- Continuous dialogue with civil society
- Encouraging integration of society -
- Discouraging parochialism, politicisation of caste -
- Encouraging scientific temper, spirit of humanism.

12. A bridge is being built by a powerful local contractor in a district. The Public Works Department (PWD) is responsible for issuing the tender, checking the quality of the bridge and giving approval to it. During the construction of the bridge, testing by the quality control lab in the PWD showed its strength to be slightly below the minimum value required for granting approval for its further construction and completion. The local contractor paid hefty bribes to some officials in the PWD to get the contract. These officials are pressurising the quality control lab in the PWD to sign the report and give the required approval to the bridge. The local MLA is also pressurising the concerned lab for the approval, as elections in the state are approaching and the bridge has to be inaugurated. However, the in-charge of the lab is aware that if he grants approval and any mishappening related to the bridge occurs in the future, he may come under scrutiny. In this context, answer the following questions:

(a) What are the issues involved in this scenario?

(b) Evaluate the options available to the in-charge of the quality control lab in the given situation.

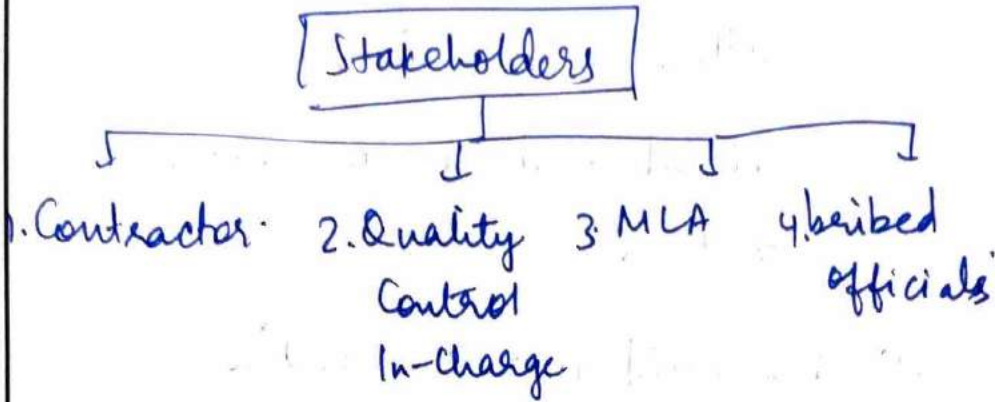
(c) What course of action should the lab in-charge take? Justify with logical arguments. (20)

एक जिले में एक शक्तिशाली स्थानीय ठेकेदार द्वारा एक पुल का निर्माण किया जा रहा है। लोक निर्माण विभाग (PWD) निविदा जारी करने, पुल की गुणवत्ता की जांच करने और इसे मंजूरी देने के लिए जिम्मेदार है। पुल के निर्माण के दौरान, PWD में गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण प्रयोगशाला द्वारा किए गए एक परीक्षण में पाया गया कि इसकी मजबूती, आगे के निर्माण कार्य और उसे पूरा करने के लिए मंजूरी देने हेतु आवश्यक न्यूनतम परिमाण (वैल्यू) से थोड़ा कम है। स्थानीय ठेकेदार द्वारा PWD के कुछ अधिकारियों को ठेका दिलाने के लिए अत्यधिक रिश्वत दी गई। ये अधिकारी PWD में गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण प्रयोगशाला पर रिपोर्ट पर हस्ताक्षर करने और पुल को आवश्यक मंजूरी देने का दबाव बना रहे हैं। स्थानीय विधायक भी मंजूरी के लिए संबंधित लैब पर दबाव बना रहा है, क्योंकि राज्य में चुनाव निकट हैं और पुल का उद्घाटन किया जाना है। हालांकि, लैब के प्रभारी को पता है कि यदि वह मंजूरी देता है और भविष्य में पुल से संबंधित कोई भी दुर्घटना होती है, तो वह जांच के दायरे में आ सकता है। इस संदर्भ में, निम्नलिखित प्रश्नों के उत्तर दीजिए:

(a) इस परिदृश्य में शामिल मुद्दे क्या हैं?

(b) प्रदत्त स्थिति में गुणवत्ता नियंत्रण प्रयोगशाला के प्रभारी के समक्ष उपलब्ध विकल्पों का मूल्यांकन कीजिए।

(c) प्रयोगशाला प्रभारी को क्या कार्रवाई करनी चाहिए? व्यावहारिक तर्कों के साथ औचित्य सिद्ध कीजिए।



### Worst Case Situations:

1. Will lose contract, face losses.
2. Will face inquiry, dereliction of duty, criminal charges.
3. Will lose elections if bridge not constructed.
4. Will face disciplinary action.

### Options Available:

1. He may might succumb to pressure and give approval.

2. He could take the matter to a senior official and disclose facts to them -
  3. He could go to the media and expose facts.
  4. He could refuse to give approval.
1. In this case, he will face enormous guilt at having acted in a dishonest way and not prioritising common good.
  2. Here, there is a possibility of the senior official too being involved. Otherwise, they can provide the in-charge with some guidance and

proceed accordingly.

3. This would be unbecoming of him as a civil servant and he will face undue pressure. However, corrupt elements will get exposed.
4. While this would be the most honest decision to make, he still stands to be affected from political pressure and may face a hasty transfer.

The best course to take would be:

the in-charge should approach a trustworthy and undoubtedly honest public senior official or colleague in law and order.

With their advice and support,  
he may either give disapproval,  
provided he has support from  
higher levels or he could  
blow the whistle and submit  
reports to the ombudsman.

In doing so, he would not  
only uphold his personal  
duty; but also contribute  
to the weeding out of  
undesirable elements in  
the bureaucracy.