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ALOK SINGH

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GENERAL STUDIES - PAPER IV

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

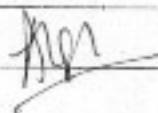
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Name ALOK SINGH

Roll No. _____

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Signature 

1. Invigilator Signature _____

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REMARKS

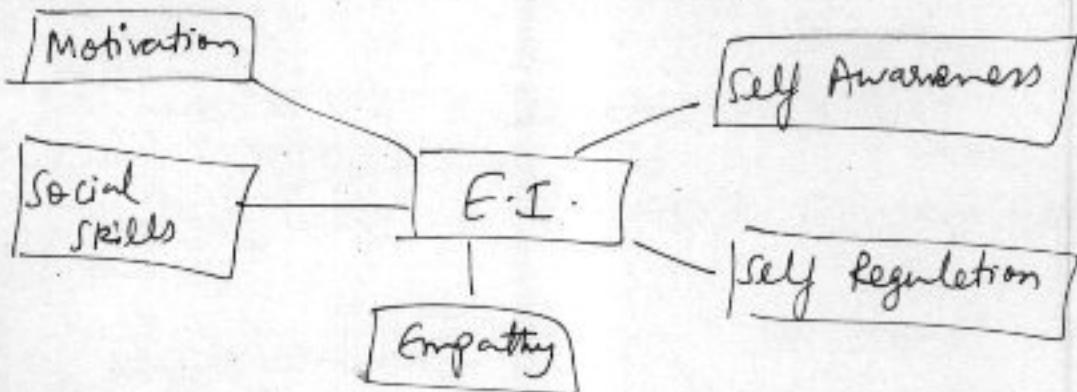
SECTION - A

- Q1. What would be your preference at the time of making a decision and choosing from two sets of available options-one that is right or one that is easy? Why?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

While making a decision, a person needs to possess Emotional intelligence in order to make that decision just & fair.

According to Daniel Goleman,



Thus, when two competing sets of options are available to a person he should choose the path that is right. This is in line with Immanuel Kant's deontological approach which talks about the duty to do right.

Remarks

In Indian philosophy, Buddhist & Jainist others teach the same.

This approach can also be observed in life of Mahatma Gandhi. While in South Africa, it would have been very easy for him to fight his case and come back to India. However, he chose to stay back for 20 years & fought for the rights of Indentured Indians in India. We all should emulate this approach in our life to make our life virtuous.

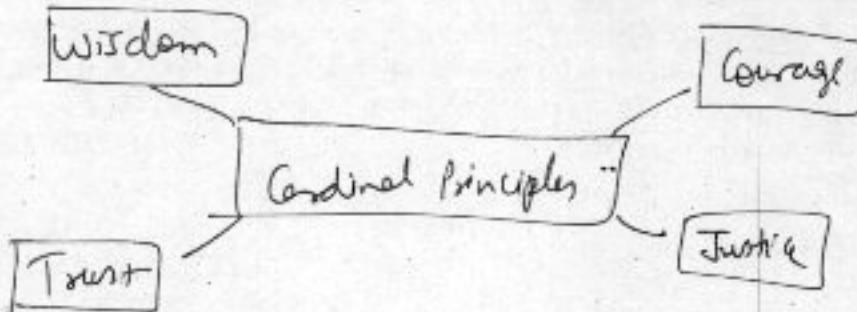
Remarks

- Q2. What is the importance of trust in administration, management and leadership? Has trust anything to do with consistency and coherence in our behaviour and action? What is the relation between trust and truth? Why is it said, "Trust takes years to build, seconds to break, and forever to repair." (150 Words) (10 Marks)

The Importance of trust in administration, management & leadership is like an anchor to a ship. If a storm comes, the ship doesn't move. Similarly, trust helps in anchoring the public faith with the administration. This bridges the trust deficit between the administration & the citizenry.

Trust building is a slow process. Various actions of a man shape, define and steer trust. It is the basic essence of life by which human beings survive. It is one of the four cardinal principles of

Remarks

plat.

Thus, trust is built on Coherence and Consistency in action of a human.

Relationship between trust & truth are that trust is built on the platform of Truth. A relation will thrive with trust if the individuals involved are truthful to themselves & mutually truthful.

Trust is built on actions of truth & takes a significant time to build. However, one wrong action can shatter all the accumulated trust in a relation & thus, it is upon us to imbibe truth in our lives & trust in our relationships.

Remarks

- Q3. What is success? Is success possible by remaining moral and ethical in the extant competitive world? What are the reasons for distraction from a moral and ethical path in life? Why it is important to lead a moral and ethical life while we pursue success and excellence? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Success is achieving the life goals & aspirations that one has set for thyself.

It can be relational success, career wise success, monetary success etc.

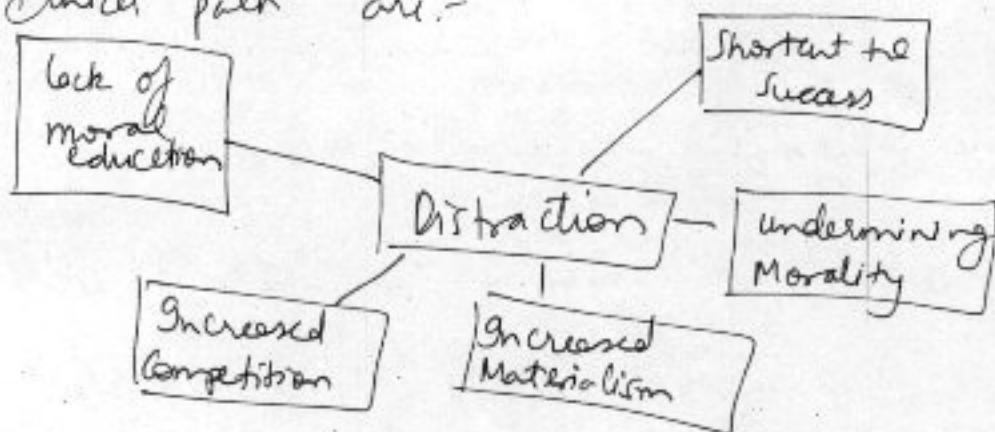
In a fast changing & competitive world, people are opting for unethical practices in order to be successful. The biggest example is various scams like Sardha Scam taking place.

However, it is possible to be successful while remaining moral & ethical. This could be learnt from the life of former president

APJ Abdul Kalam. All his life, he remained on the path of his principles which consisted

of hardwork, devotion, national interest,
truthful and reached the pinnacles of which
one could dream of.

The Reasons for distraction from Moral &
ethical path are:-



According to Gandhiji, "Success is not in achieving but trying. You are already successful if you have tried hard." This highlights the importance of being ethical & moral & working hard in that direction. 'A corrupt man is no man at all'. In our fast life, we need to adhere to the principle of being honest, and maintain our integrity, then only can we attain the highest happiness.

Remarks

- Q4. What is neutrality and why is it considered a non-compromising trait of a Civil Servant? What are the factors that compel a public servant to give up neutrality and take biased decisions? What are the pre-requisites to maintain neutrality? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Neutrality is being committed to the code of ethics & of being fair & unbiased. It is serving the citizenry without fear or favour, affection or ill-will. It is one of the highest traits of a civil servant because on it is based the base of a welfare state. The Maxim of Common good can only be achieved by being neutral. However, being neutral allows a person to be biased in favour of vulnerable & unwanted section of the society.

The factors that compel a civil servant to give up neutrality are:-

- (i) Pressure from the powerful
- (ii) Lure of promotion or greed.

Remarks

- (iii) Failing to address follow the code of ethics.
- (iv) shutting out the voice of conscience.

The pre-requisites to maintain neutrality are-

- (i) A strong foundation of various principles & virtues like Integrity, objectivity, truthfulness, care for others etc. as recommended by 2nd ARC.
- (ii) Providing sufficient Remunerations to the civil servant to not get lured ~~by~~ in to Malpractices.
- (iii) An efficient and a fair Ombudsman.
- (iv) Various initiatives like Integrity pact & Social Audits (As introduced in Meghalaya)

The above steps will help in strengthening the foundation of our Civil services & help it in maintaining its neutrality.

Remarks

- Q5. What is moral crisis? Cite some examples from Indian society and polity. Explain the statement in right context- "The hottest places in hell are reserved for those who, in times of great moral crisis, maintain their neutrality." (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Moral Crisis is the deviation of a person from his pre-set principles like honesty, truth, courage, wisdom. According to Immanuel Kant, Moral Crisis is when a person ^{overlooks his} & Categorical Imperative & commits an act which is in dissonance with his or her principles.

The Recent Case of ICICI Bank CEO Chanda Kochhar is an example of Moral Crisis. Mrs. Kochhar's act of conflict of interest and failing to declare it shows her failure to comply with her organizational ethical conduct which demands Objectivity &

Remarks

Poibity

The statement "hottest places in hell are reserved for those who in times of great moral crisis, maintain their neutrality" dignifies the want of action at the time of a Moral crisis. If a person just ignores the ongoing situation without taking care of the effect on his / her organization, such a person is guilty.

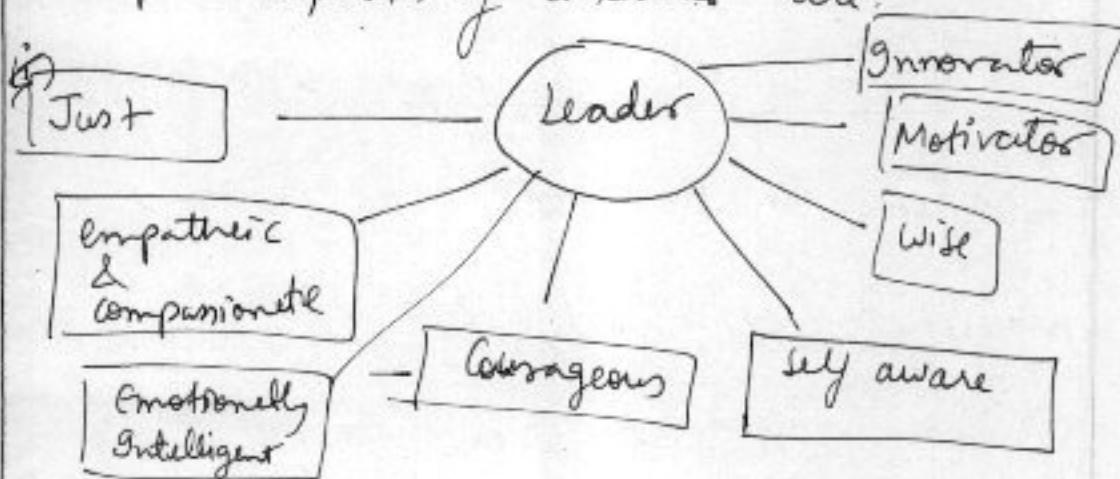
"A person is guilty not only when he ~~is~~ has done something wrong, he is also guilty when he fails to do what is right."

Remarks

- Q6. What are the pre-requisites a leader must have for change and progress? Why resilience and endurance are considered as the greatest proof of strength and defining traits of a leader trying to bring progress, changes and reforms? Are these properties at conflict with adaptability and adjustment, which are hallmarks of pragmatic ethics? In which situations resilience and endurance become infirmity and rigidity and need to be shunned? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

A leader is a person who helps the organization & its member grow. He leads by example & is an epitome of Transformational leadership.

The pre-requisites of a leader are:-



Resilience & endurance are considered as greatest proof of strength & traits of a leader because a leader refuses to bend under pressure. He finds innovative ways to tackle

Remarks

a situation. ~~He~~ He struggles until the battle is won or the goal is accomplished.

Mahatma Gandhi's Struggle - Truce - Struggle tactic against Britishers underlines the resilience & endurance of a leader.

These traits are not at all to set conflict with adaptability & adjustment.

A leader is not rigid in his approach.

He finds new ways to deal with an existing problem. In this way he shows his adaptability & adjustment to the situation.

However, in cases where ~~the~~ situation demands, a leader need to give up on being rigid. For example: Jawaharlal Nehru was against Partition of the Country. However, with increased bloodshed, he let go of that idea. This shows adjusting nature of a leader.

Remarks

- Q7. In which situations there arises a conflict between majority rule/convention and a person's conscience? What should a wise individual or a good leader do while choosing a path-listen to her/his conscience or outside noises and popular voices? Why?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Human mind is a battleground. There is a constant battle between what is right according to a person's heart & what is right according to others.

The situations where a conflict between Majority & person's Conscience arises is:-

When a person from a marginalized section is being treated unjustly. A just & courageous person would stand up to such injustice even going against the majority will. The recent Mob lynchings present one such example.

According to Immanuel Kant, a person is free if he is only bound by his own

Remarks

Conscience. Thus, a wise individual or a good leader needs to hear his own Conscience rather than the will of Majority. ~~Rabindranath Tagore~~ Raja Rammohan Roy in his efforts to ban Sati in 1820's started & only listened to his own Conscience. Thus, this shows the importance part of a great leader.

Remarks

Q8. Discuss ethical issues involved in clinical trials.

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Clinical trials are the trials of various medicines that are undertaken on a selected group of people before introducing them in a full-fledged way for the population.

Various ethical issues involved in clinical trials are:-

- (i) Whether the person who is undergoing a clinical trial has consented for the same.
- (ii) Whether the subject has fully been made aware of the possibility of side effects of the clinical trial.
- (iii) Whether the drug, if approved, will be

Remarks

available in the clinical trial Country.

(iv) whether quality healthcare would be provided to the subject once the clinical trials are over.

(v) what will be the price of the drug if it is to be introduced in the subjects Country. Will the drug be accessible & affordable?

The various above ethical issues are being faced by various pharmaceutical companies like Ranbaxy which use subjects from poor African countries & then introduce the costly drug in European & American Markets.

Remarks

- Q9. The real problems of the civil services are not with recruitment; they are with what happens after an officer joins the system. Do u agree? Analyse (150 Words) (10 Marks)

The recent lateral entry Scheme of the government to recruit high level officers has again put a question on whether the problem is in the recruitment of the process or the system.

When a person joins the system, he is made to undergo various malaises present within the system, these are :-

- (i) Political pressure from the political bosses.
- (ii) Inappropriate compensation.
- (iii) Huge work pressure.
- (iv) Nepotism & favouritism.
- (v) Huge vacancy.

Remarks

These problems need to be tackled by:-

- (i) increasing independence of bureaucracy.
- (ii) Allotting a fixed term for Civil Servants.
- (iii) Increasing remuneration comparable to the Private Sector.
- (iv) Increasing avenues for development of ethical values of a civil servant.
- (v) Increasingly use ICT to decrease work pressure.

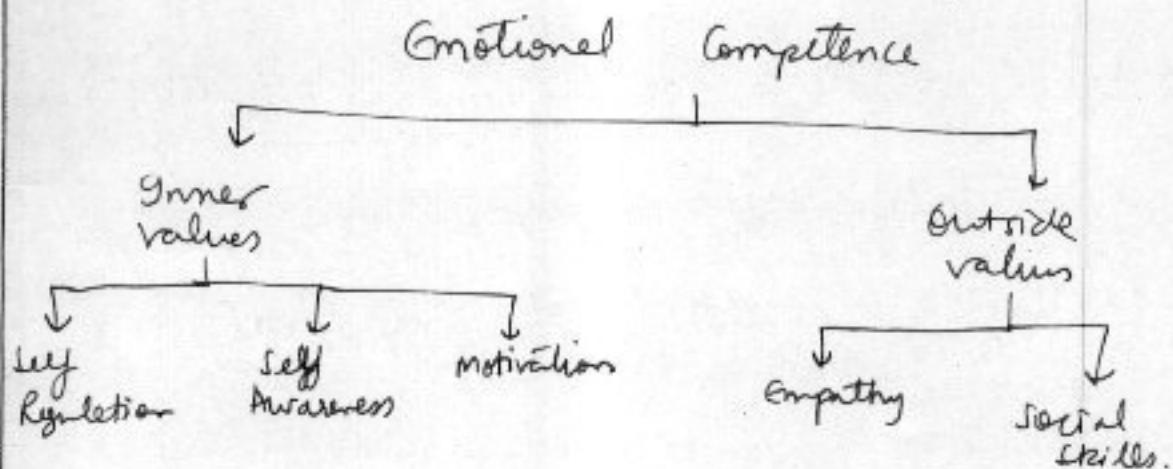
An Example of Shri Amit Gupta, IPS, needs to be highlighted. With his devotion to duty, he was able to eradicate the Practice of Manual Scavenging in Badam.

Thus, if officers treated & mentored well would help in increasing the standards of our bureaucracy.

Remarks

- Q10. Some situations you just can't control. For instance, someone you care about might betray your trust. Or, no matter what you do and how hard you try, you might not be able to win over that person you're trying to impress. There will be people who can't stand with you no matter what you do, and then there will be people that adore you no matter what. Situations like these - situations you can't control - will arise throughout life, and they may change your course. That's just life. It is what it is. In this light how emotional competence facilitates an individual to understand, manage and handle oneself and others positively in various setting? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Emotional Competence is the ability of a person to understand one's own emotion & the emotions of others. No matter what life presents, in order for a person to be emotionally competent, he needs to have two set of skills & virtues:-



Self Regulation, Self Awareness & Motivation

help a person understand himself better

Remarks

Such a person is neither too upset in the odd times nor too excited in the happy ones.

Empathy & Social Skills help an individual in understanding others viewpoints & can help in establishing a relation.

Mother-Teresa can be stated as an example here. Here emotional Competence helped her in establishing Mission Shishu Bhawan for abandoned abandoned children & Berneeth for leprosy suffering patients.

This feeling of compassion & empathy needs to be emulated by one & all.

Remarks

Q11. Analyse the characteristics of 'Corporate Excellence'?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Corporate Excellence is the fulfilling of various promises that a Corporate has with its customers without compromising the quality of service ^{being} provided.

The various characteristics of Corporate Excellence are:-

- (i) Corporate governance.
- (ii) Undertaking the global best practices in environment protection.
- (iii) Minimum carbon-footprint.
- (iv) Increasingly using renewable energy.
- (v) Accessible & Affordable to weakest section of the society.
- (vi) Follows the rule of law.
- (vii) Accountability & transparency.

Remarks

- (viii) protection to Whistleblowers.
- (ix) Avoiding conflict of interest.
- (x) Avoiding ^{trade} Cartelization.
- (xi) Motivating Employees.

The above features are of 'Corporate Excellence'. TATA is one such corporate which has, time and again, adhered to the above principles & has been a Corporate leader for over a century.

Remarks

SECTION - B

In the following questions carefully study the cases presented and then answer the question that follows:

Q12. You are head of an ambitious road project and have been authorized by the government to make a 8 lane highway from the existing 4 lane. The widening of road includes acquiring small holdings of the poor people and cutting thousands of existing trees. Government justifies the project because of its utility, economic growth and overall development of the area.

There are thousands of poor people and environmentalist who are opposing the project. Ponder over the situation and answer the following questions.

- What actions and justification you have to address the concerns of those who oppose the project?
- What are the ethical/moral issues involved in your decision/action, and how you would justify your decision.
- What is the alternative course of action with merits and demerits which one can take so as to prevent the land acquisition and cutting of trees.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The case is of development vs equity. This ethical dilemma presents with problem of balancing development & equity on one hand & development & environment on the other.

- As a head of an ambitious road project, it is my responsibility to take the ~~the~~ project forward. In order for my action to be just & fair to everyone, I will take

Remarks

following steps:-

- (i) Conduct Environment Impact Assessment & Social Impact Assessment.
 - (ii) Involving local population in the decision making by conducting an open house conversation over the project and the benefits that will accrue to the local populace & national economy.
 - (iii) I will involve environmental experts, engineering experts, sociologist, local NGO and local government to chalk out proper outlay of the project so that minimum harm to the environment is done. This will be in line with the maxim of Eco Activism.
- (b) The various ethical / moral issues involved in the decision are:-

Remarks

(i) Dilemma of development vs environment :-

I would justify the decision by making local poor population realize the importance of the Connectivity project in their own welfare which would help bring health, education, economic services at their doors.

(ii) Dilemma of development vs environment :-

I would allay the fear of people & environmentalists by using latest technologies which has the least effect on environment. for eg: Renewable energy to drive roller machines, using environment-friendly material, doing social forestry.

(c) The alternative course of action are:-

(i) Increasing 4 lanes to only 6 lanes :- This would minimize the impact but would jeopardize the future growth of population & traffic. ~~This~~ would be a short-term step.

(ii) Introducing flyovers :- This can help in minimal land acquisition but this project would be very costly.

Remarks

Q13. You are a middle ranked officer in the ministry and known for your honesty and integrity. You find that private secretary of the Minister suggests you to deal with certain matter in a particular way. When you tell him, that the suggestion is against Government rules, he confirms that this is the desire of Hon. Minister. Following options come in your mind to deal with the problem.

- Ask the private secretary (P.S.) to confirm in writing.
- Meet your senior officer and seek his suggestion and guidance.
- Refuse the Private Secretary and stick to rules only.
- Bring the matter into records and suggest that rules be changed to accommodate the views of Minister.

Examine the merits/demerits of each option and suggest the best options with justifications. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

This case presents the personal vs ethical dilemma. If I follow the ~~minis~~ private Secretary's instruction, that would jeopardize my best kept virtues of honesty, Integrity & Code of conduct. If I don't follow the instruction, this could lead to missing of my Promotional chances and exceeding in the organization.

Various merits/ demerits of options are :-

- (a) Asking the Private Secretary to confirm in writing will have:-

Remarks

(2) Merit :- (i) It would decrease my liability of an illegal decision.

(ii) It would serve as a record for future.

Demerit :- (i) This could lead to Hon. minister being agitated with the decision and obstruct my promotional chances.

b) Merits of meeting & discussing the matter with senior would be :-

(i) My senior would be able to give me an informed advise as to how he was able to deal with such a situation.

Demerit :- (i) A Hon. Minister would not be pleased with my disclosure of to someone else. This violates the value of confidentiality.

(c) Merit :- (i) Refusing the P.S. could help me in preserving my well-kept principles of Allegiance to Code of Conduct of the organization.

Demerit :- This could possibly be taken as a case

Remarks

of indiscipline by the honourable minister.

(d) Bringing the matter in record & changing rules
 Could have :-

Merits:- (i) It would save me of the burden of violating the code of conduct.

(ii) Future officers will have a ready made template to deal with such issues.

Demerits:- (i) If the instruction given is against the public good, it would violate the maxim of common good & utilitarian principle.

I think the best option would be to seek an appointment with the hon. minister.

This would help me clarify my doubts about the intentions of hon. Minister. If the instruction is for larger good, I would request him to kindly consider provide amending the Code of Conduct of organization. This would help me in acting objectively & maintaining discipline.

Remarks

Q14. There is an entrepreneur who has opened a factory in the rural areas for the manufacture of sanitary ware. His initiative has helped in providing good employment opportunity to rural people and in the production of affordable sanitary products which are being used in construction of rural toilets. However there are some cases of under payment of wages and few cases of employment of children below 14 yrs. You are labour enforcement officer of the area and in course of your routine inspection, you noticed these discrepancies. Answer the following.

- (a) What are the options available to you?
- (b) Discuss the merits/demerits of each option and finally choose the option which you consider best with suitable justifications. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

This is a case of violating the legal provisions of the law of land. The ethical dilemma over here is :-

better good of people vs law of land.

(a) The options available with me are :-

(i) Issuing a warrant against the current entrepreneur for violation of labour laws & violating the provision (Article 24) (Abolition of Child Labour) of the Indian Constitution.

(ii) As the entrepreneur is working towards welfare of the rural area, letting him go with just a warning.

Remarks

(iii) ~~Discuss~~ = Discussing the matter with entrepreneur, local population, ^{trade union} and a local NGO for ensuring just compensation to labours & abolition of child labour.

(b) (i) Merits :- (a) Enforcing my primary responsibility i.e. enforcing labour laws without fear or favour.

(b) It would lead to the other entrepreneurs in mending their ways.

Demerits :- (a) It would lead to loss of employment.
 (b) It would hinder the march of rural area towards Open defecation free & Swach Bharat.

(i) Merits :- (i) It would allow the economic activity to continue.
 (ii) It would help in maintaining the sanitation of village.

Demerits :- (i) Both Each Stakeholder participation would help in resolving the issue.
 (ii) Rehabilitation of children.

Remarks

Demerits :- (i) It would lead the entrepreneur to act with impunity. I would be failing in my duty if so happens.

- (iii) Merits :- (i) Each stakeholder's participation would help in resolving the issue.
 (ii) Rehabilitation of children.

Demerits :- (i) Time taking process.
 (ii) Difficulty in consensus building.

I would choose the (iii) option to be most suitable because:-

- (i) It would help me fulfil my duty with devotion & thus, fulfil maxim of legality & maxim of common good.
- (ii) It would ensure continuation of economic activity & sanitation campaign within the rural area.
- (iii) It would involve all the stakeholders in the dialogue process.
- (iv) It would help in realizing the dream of Constitution by providing a happy childhood for the children.

Remarks

- Q15. This is a situation which pertain to Parliament elections. You are posted as District Magistrate in one of the notorious district. There were several officer to assist you in your work, i.e. Returning Officer, District Election Officer and Additional District Magistrate (ADM). Background duties of various officers were assigned as presiding officers were unwilling to take up election duties as it was very arduous work and a big responsibility. Presiding officers and polling officers were called four days before the poll for training and collection of material/stationary like voters list, manuals, ballot papers etc. In one such event, when the distribution of material was being made, one polling officer had a heated argument with ADM which resulted in a scuffle. There were around 300 polling personnel who formed a mob as most of them were unhappy because they had been put on election duty. ADM locked his room from inside to save himself from attack by this furious mob. This mob was not willing to cooperate in further duty. How would you handle the situation? What are the possible alternatives available? Explain and justify your action.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

This is a case in which official duty is involved. The respect for and importance of parliamentary elections has been lost on the angry mob. I would handle the situation by :-

- (i) Immediately calling the law enforcement agency (Police) to the place in order to control the situation.
- (ii) I would identify the senior most officer to my cabin and ask him about the

Remarks

issue.

- (iii) I would ask the DSP of the area to escort ADM to safety out of the premises.
- (iv) I would later identify the perpetrators of such unruly behaviour and talk to them in person. If required, I would initiate a departmental enquiry against them or convey their unruly behaviour to their seniors.

The possible alternatives are:-

- (A) Convey in writing to each one of the personnel's department about the behaviour and ask for new polling staff from Election Commission.

But this would lead to the following:-

- (i) The personnel who were outraged in the heat of the moment would be exposed to harsh disciplinary action.
- (ii) As only 4 days are remaining to the election, asking for new staff would not be the

Remarks

right way to go due to pacity to time &
Untrained new staff.

- (B) (i) Identify the perpetrators of unruly behavior & write to their respective departments to initiate Enquiries
- (ii) The left-over staff needs to be warned & cancelled about any such future behaviour.
- (iii) There is a need to make the personnel understand about the importance of their role in elections.
- (iv) Counselling the polling personnel and arranging for Anger Management ~~course~~ programme for the time-being of election.
- (v) As a long ~~step~~ term step, asking ~~reforms~~ writing to the Election Commission to consider recruiting dedicated cadre for election duties.
 These steps will go a long way in ensuring a peaceful & fair process of elections.

Remarks

Q16. A state government has set up an anti-corruption unit under your leadership to take decisive action against prevailing corruption in various departments. You have a clear cut vision and a perfect understanding about what to do with the help of the team. Some of the team members have a soft attitude towards corruption. You have decided to persuade the team so that the team could be very effective in anti-corruption measures.

- (a) What are the various options available to you to motivate your team?
- (b) Evaluate the merits and demerits of each option and choose the option which you consider best, giving reasons.

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

As an Anti-Corruption head, it is my basic responsibility to follow the maxim of Transparency & adhering to the code of ethics & code of conduct of my organization. Moreover, I have a responsibility to motivate my team in the same direction. The options available with me are:-

- (i) To assess my subordinates as to their attitude towards corruption & picking up the most upright & honest.
- (ii) Motivate my subordinates by arranging for Counselling by experts & presenting case studies.
- (iii) Motivating my team members by exposing

Remarks

them to various Anti-Corruption literature & movies.

- (i) Merits :- (a) It would help in Risk Management i.e. placing the most upright officers in critical positions.
 (b) It would help me in getting a trust worthy team.

Demerits :- (a) It would demotivate the ones who are kept out of the team & doesn't provide them a ^{2nd} chance in improving their backrecord.

- (ii) Merits :- (a) It could help in appealing with the members emotions & empathy.
 (b) It could help me in understanding the importance of Participation in governance.

Demerits :- (a) Lack of attention in officers can make the exercise futile.

- (iii) Merits :- (a) Movies & literature have a direct

Remarks

influence or psychology of a person.

(b) Demerits:- (a) The ones who don't like movies would lose interest in the exercise

I will, as a head of the anti-corruption bureau, would choose a combination of above options. Risk Management will help in increasing the Credibility of department & present the department in favourable light.

Counselling by experts will help in making the subordinates realize their duty. Along with this, various legislations like Anti-Corruption Act, 1982, Benami transaction (Property) Act, 1981,

Money Laundering Act, 2002 and their importance

will be explained to the team. These steps

only will help in realizing the Integrity,

Objectivity & Selflessness as recommended by 2nd ALC recommendation.

Remarks

Q17. There is a busy railway station where the waiting rooms are unhygienic. There is no proper safe and clean drinking water facility. The enquiry system is dysfunctional and on reservation counter, the touts dictate everything. You are Station Superintendent and there is an advisory committee to look after the interest of railway passengers. You have decided to improve the work culture of the railway station. Your officials are willing to cooperate but reluctant to share responsibility.

- (a) What are the options available to you?
- (b) Examine the merits/demerits of each option and suggest the best course of action with reasons. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

Being a Station Superintendent, my responsibility is to keep the station in a perfectly working condition with basic minimum hygiene being maintained. In order to improve the work culture, the various options available with me are:-

- (i) Identifying various reluctant staff & transferring them to other sections.
- (ii) Absorbing other ~~responsibilities~~ along with my own.
- (iii) Counselling the resent staff, motivating them by ~~not~~ formulating various Output oriented awards, using ICT to improve sanitation of

Remarks

Station etc.

(b) (i) Merits:- Diversifying reluctant staff & transferring them will have the following merits:-

(a) It would encourage others to work harder.

(b)

Demerits:- (a) Rather than counselling, transferring Staff would lead them to be further demotivated.

(b) Hardworking p Staff would unnecessarily come under undue pressure.

(ii) Merits:- (i) It would increase the efficiency & effectiveness of the system leading to better outcomes.

Demerits:- (i) It would hamper my basic responsibilities.

(ii) It would ~~then~~ set a bad precedent and would put me in a bad light as someone who can't manage & motivate his workforce.

Remarks

(iii) Merit) It would help in realizing the true potential of the workforce & hence, increase efficiency.

(ii) It would help in introduction of latest technology on the station & help it in making inclusive & user friendly.

Demerits:- (i) It is a cost intensive & time-intensive process.

The best course of action would be '(iii)' because it not only helps in rewarding the hard-working staff, it also improves the output of, until then, reluctant staff. Use of Information & Communication technology would help in making the station as a model station. Moreover, making it inclusive can help in realizing the features of Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan.

Remarks

Q18. There are four roundabouts in a city which are very crowded, resulting into a traffic jam. The city has a business potential, besides residents desire that there should be some attempts to beautify these places as is done in many other cities of the country. You are municipal commissioner of the city and a delegation of eminent people have come to meet you with a request to do something for the purpose. You checked up with your finance and accounts department, which expressed its reluctance to part with resources.

- (a) What are various options before you?
- (b) Discuss the merits/demerits of each options and finally suggest best option which you would choose giving justifications. (250 Words) (20 Marks)

As a Municipal Commissioner, various local subjects like infrastructure, roads, health etc are under the Municipality According to schedule 12 of the Indian Constitution. In order to solve the problem of traffic jam & beautifying the city, the following options are available:-

- (i) Ask ~~for~~ for fund from State government.
- (ii) Cut expenditure in other basic facilities & divert the fund for infrastructure development.
- (iii) Float municipal bonds and investing in

Remarks

Mass Rapid transit system & other public transport.

(b) Merit & demerits :-

(i) Merits :- (i) It could decrease the crisis of fund & help in achieving the aim.

^(II)
Demerits :- (i) It is a time consuming process.

(ii) It shows bad light on managing expenses of the city.

(ii) Merits :- (i) cutting expenditure in other services would free the fund that could later be invested in infrastructure.

Demerits :- (i) It would hinder the proper functioning of other basic services like Health & education, thus, affecting the socio-economic indicator of area.

(iii) Merits :- Floating of Municipal bonds can help in :-

(i) Availability of funds.

Remarks

- (ii) No hindrance on other basic facilities.
- (iii) giving a stake to local entrepreneurs in the development of the city.
- (iv) Development of various other infrastructure like public metros & bus rapid transits.

Demerit's (i) It is time consuming.

(ii) It depends upon the credibility of Municipality & objectivity in floating process.

The best option that I would choose is to (iii). This is because Urban Infrastructure has a long gestation period, thus Municipal bonds can help. It would give a stakehold to the local populace.

As a long term measure, I would introduce various innovative projects like Renewable energy ^{help}, Mass transport in order to improve the lifestyle of living index. Above steps can help in sealing SDG goal 6 :- of Sustainable urban areas & sanitation.

Remarks

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