


ETHICS, INTEGRITY AND APTITUDE

Time Allowed: 3 hrs.

Max. Marks: 250

Q.	Marks	Instructions to Candidate
1.		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• There are 20 questions.• All questions are compulsory• The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.• Content of the answer is more important than its length.• Answers must be written in the space provided.• Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off. 
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1. Invigilator Signature

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Date 10 Sept 2017

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SECTION - A

Q1. The best leaders don't act with a sense of superiority; they act with a sense of empathy.
 Explain and answer the following questions: (75 Words Each) (5×2=10 Marks)

- (a) Does emotional attitude such as a sense of empathy in leadership and management act as obstacle to professionalism, teamwork, partnerships, and collaboration.
- (b) Explain the statement- "To perceive is to suffer."

(a). In leadership & management, there is a need of balance (b/w) emotional attitude (like empathy) & professionalism.

Thus, no, it does not act as an obstacle.

① Enhances teamwork, partnerships & collaboration as team-mates are able to emotionally connect with their leader.

② The leader is able to function better by being emotionally intelligent & communicate more effectively, inspire, peaceful conflict resolution, negotiate etc.

③ The management better understands needs of team-mates due to empathy & sympathy ∴ inclusive growth for all.

At same time sufficient professionalism to take difficult decisions in situations like war etc; Lay offs etc is also necessary.

It also enhances accountability amongst the employees.

(b). To perceive is to suffer.

① Only those who are able to perceive i.e. observe, understand & comprehend the sufferings of others by empathy & sympathy, suffer.

② They suffer because they feel the pain of the downtrodden like they are their own.

Remarks

~~But~~ ^{while} this compassion leads to them being saddened due to injustice in this world; their emotional attitude also helps them become resolved & determined to solve problems of others.

→ This leads to better leaders due to empathy.

2

good content.

Remarks

Q2. What do you mean by trustworthiness? How EI can generate trustworthiness in oneself and that of others in you?
(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Trustworthiness

- means having faith and confidence in ability of the concerned individual.
- A trustworthy person is one who inspires belief that they will come to your aid in times of need & you have full faith in their capability to help you.

Emotional Intelligence

→ Means using information stored in emotions of self & others to enhance decision making capability.

① Generates trustworthiness in one self.

→ By being EI, one can become more self aware. Thus understand what one is feeling, have self confidence.

→ can control & manage one's emotions even during difficult times ∴ courage, fortitude, objectivity & impartiality enhance trust in one's authority.

② Generates trust of others in you

→ One becomes socially aware - by experiencing empathy, sympathy and understanding the pain, sufferings & problems of others.

→ One becomes efficient in social management i.e. using emotions in right direction - to inspire, lead, communicate effectively, negotiate & ensure peaceful conflict resolution.

Thus others put their trust in you if you are EI.

Remarks

3 1/2
good content

Q3. Explain the following quotations with respect to the application of EI in civil services:

- (a) "If you do not understand yourself, you do not understand anybody else".
 (b) Success is not the result of spontaneous combustion. You must set yourself on fire.
 (75 Words Each) (5×2=10 Marks)

(a).

This quote means that if you understand yourself, you can understand others too.
 ① Only ^{one should} those who understand what they are feeling, truly understand the emotions they are experiencing.
 ② Once they are able to do that, they will be able to understand what another is feeling, how they emotionally respond to situations.

Eg: Only one who recognises the luxury of having food to eat everyday, can empathise & sympathise with those who starve of hunger.

Thus emotional intelligence helps one become compassionate to the suffering of others, this further inspires & motivates them to end their pain.

Hence this is essential for a career in the civil services.

It helps them in policy making.

(b). See This statement has many aspects -

- ① Success is not a matter of chance, one doesn't achieve it just by luck or by doing nothing.
 ② To achieve a goal, one must put in the required effort, burn oneself with determination & perseverance.

Eg: If one wants to end poverty, they must first study hard to become a civil servant, or plan & make a policy to ensure holistic & inclusive growth of all, get it approved, implement it diligently. Only then do they get closer to achieving their goal.

Remarks

What about the role of their decision making?

2

2

Q4. How does emotional balance help civil servants in taking value judgments and administrative decisions? Discuss with the help of examples.

Emotional balance is the key to achieving value judgements & administrative decisions - (150 Words) (10 Marks)

① Helps in staying objective & impartial while taking decisions.

Eg: If a DM is awarding a tender and ~~there~~ his/her relative applies for the same, there is a personal conflict of interest.

Emotional balance will help the DM realise this & instead of being partial, he will inform the superior about his/her conflict of interest & recuse himself/herself.

② Helps in empathy, sympathy towards the downtrodden. Hence leads to inclusive growth.

Eg: If a poor woman is found in dire need of the PDS subsidy but she lacks the necessary documentation to avail the same.

The emotionally balanced civil servant will realise her suffering and do the needful in preparing her documentation instead of outright rejecting her.

③ In times of difficulty, helps in having courage & conviction to stand by right decisions even at great personal cost.

Eg: Going against a superior if he/she asks you to indulge in illegal activity like corruption.

Thus emotional balance is necessary for civil servants.

Also discuss the role of E-I in it.

31/2

Remarks

Q5. The crisis of ethics in public life is more because of attitudinal problem of public servants rather than organizational ineffectiveness. Critically analyze. (150 Words) (10-Marks)

Crisis due to attitudinal problem

① Due to colonial legacy, many times bureaucracy believes they have the right to abuse their power for their own personal gains. They are selfish.

Eg: A corrupt officer taking bribe from a poor deserving beneficiary of a scheme to include his name in the subsidy.

② Lack of compassion towards those whom the officers are supposed to serve.

Eg: If an officer uses child labour in his/her own home, how will they save children outside?

③ Grud for more (leading to corruption), lack of patience with public etc. are other attitudinal problems.

Crisis due to organizational ineffectiveness

① Working in silos, lack of team work between officers.

② Lack of innovation in policy planning & implementation.

③ Too much importance to paper work & Red tapism - take bribes for quick clearances.

④ Too many decision taking layers - diffuses accountability for action / in action.

⑤ Poor monitoring of scheme & funds breeds wrongdoing.

Thus both are causing a crisis of ethics in public

Remarks

Begin with essence of public life.

32

life.
But if attitudes of officers is reformed, the
organizational ineffectiveness itself will also be
taken care of.

How can it be
reformed?

Remarks

Q6. 'Collusive corruption differs from other type of corruptions because its unethical affects demoralizes the entire fabric of the society, which is doomed in poverty, illiteracy and backwardness'. Illustrate. (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Collusive corruption means corruption with a group of public officials or politicians cheating the public of large amounts of money. It takes place at high government posts.

It demoralises entire fabric of society -

① While petty corruption involves one officer alone, for collusive corruption, a group of public officers & politicians are involved.

→ Highlights the spread of the disease of corruption amongst public servants.

② Takes place at high command posts of ^{political} cabinet & government posts.

→ Shocked the public as the very leaders responsible for their well being are abusing their power for personal gain.

③ The large sums of money involved in collusive corruption further demoralises people as their hard earned money spent as taxes are misused by corrupt officials.

Eg: A poor man working hard as unskilled labour under MGNREGS scheme on hearing about collusive corruption is very disheartened. He works hard day & night to earn minimum wages while those who promised him a better future cheat him by taking away his rightful public money for their own personal luxuries.

3

Remarks

How are marginalized people devoid of inclusive growth?

Q7. What could be the influence of a civil servant's private life on his/her public life? How would you prepare yourself to separate the two? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Positive Influence

- ① Personal experiences take shape us ~~for~~ & make us who we are.
Eg: If one goes to their village, observes lack of facilities for senior citizens & works in office to correct the same in all areas, this is a positive influence.
- ② Feelings of empathy, sympathy originate with personal observations & experiences.

Negative Influence

- ① Incidents in private life may interfere with objectivity of a civil servant.
Eg: Belonging to a certain caste / community may lead to bias in cases where many castes / communities are involved.
- ② Turmoil at home may result in poor output in office work.

Thus, there needs to be a mechanism to separate the two -

- ① Leave personal problems at home and go in the office with a balanced mindset & focus only on public duty.
- ② Don't allow personal experiences to cause bias in decision making - be objective, fair & impartial - take call based on facts of the case.
- ③ But positively using personal experience & knowledge for compassion & uplifting of all in sarvodaya should also be emphasized.

Remarks

- Need to develop individual conscience
- Also develop social morality.

Q8. Citizen Charters are more moral, than legal. Analyze.

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Citizen Charters as moral -

- ① Clearly state mandate of organisation. Hence specify moral duty of each official to achieve the same.
- ② Specifies the quality & timeframe of service being provided by the organisation.
→ Hence impose on officers the duty to uphold high standards of service.
- ③ Also specifies procedure for grievance redressal in case customer is not satisfied.
→ enforces moral accountability of concerned officers.
∴ they are answerable for poor service or delays.
- ④ the duties of the client are also listed. This completes the moral cycle b/w the service provider & receiver.
Hence ensure efficient & moral service delivery.

2/2

~~But it cannot be legal since there is no legal sanction~~

Thus a set of standards & ethical integrity is adopted by the organisation.

But there is NO sanction against its violation, hence Citizen charters are NOT legal in nature.

But they can be made so to enforce standards set by citizen charters & ensure compliance.

How can it be made enforceable?

Remarks

Q9. Concept of accountability is inherent to the Weberian hierarchy. Critically analyze. (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Accountability means being answerable for the actions done & decisions taken by an officer. It is taking responsibility for an outcome.

In Weberian hierarchy, accountability plays an inherent role -

- ① Only when public officials are accountable to the public, will they have the fear in mind to faithfully execute their duties.
- ② The right of public to get answers if timely & quality service is not given, is upheld.
- ③ With accountability, fitful course corrections can be done to ensure a wisdecid. is not repeated again by fixing loopholes.

~~At the same time accountability~~ But in certain situations, accountability is sidelined to meet other objectives -

- ① In war like situations, acts like AFSPA lead to massive power in the hands of certain individuals like army men.
- In situations of war and suspicion, wrongful encounter of an individual due to wrong intel may occur.
- In this case who is accountable? Should accountability be deferred to meet objective of larger public safety?

While ~~whole~~ accountability is critical for public service, even in times of war, a practical means to enforce accountability must be ensured to minimize casualties & uphold principle of ethics.

Remarks

2 1/2
Need to discuss in general not specifically

Are you aware of Supreme Court's decision in this regard?

Q10. What is essentialism? Do you agree that men and women are suitable only for certain kind of administrative assignments and so assignments should be gender sensitive? (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Essentialism means that certain characteristics are essential / critical to an individual or organisation inherently.

No, I do not agree with the statement that men & women are suitable only for certain kind of assignments.

① Children are like clay & can be moulded in any direction.

→ Hence both girls & boys are inherently the same with certain characteristics being specific beyond gender lines.

② These characteristics are picked up by observation & learning from family, friends, school & other surroundings.

③ Women can be excellent in technical backgrounds like science & research while men can excel in nurturing sectors like as nurses & teachers.

→ Hence this gender stereotype must be broken by sensitising adults, letting children choose their interests freely.

→ It limits the use of workforce can be done resulting in better service delivery & also a happier & satisfied workforce.

3

Career option gender

Remarks

23

GS SCORE

Q11. How does epistemology help a judge in the court of justice in making judgments in case of social and religious beliefs (jalikattu or triple talaq)? Explain role of epistemology in administrative decisions through an example.. (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Remarks

Q12. Which should guide a police officer deciding to fire or not to fire on a protesting mob - 'deontology or consequentialism'? Give reasons. (150 Words) (10 Marks)

Deontology

→ Means doing what is morally right (i.e. obligation of duty) regardless of what the outcome is.

Consequentialism

→ Means deciding what to do on the basis of what outcome is desired.

→ In this case, the ^{desired} outcome is to save maximum no. of lives.

As a police officer, deciding whether or not to fire on a protesting mob will depend on whether or not the mob is getting violent & harming civilians or other officers.

⊙ If they are harming & endangering other lives, they are committing an illegal act. As a police officer it is his duty to save lives & protect innocents.

→ Hence as per Deontological approach, the officer must shoot to fulfill his duty.

→ As per the Consequentialism, the desired objective of saving ^{maximum no. of} lives must be met. Hence in this case too the officer must shoot those violent culprits who are harming others.

Thus if mob is violent endangering innocent civilians despite repeated warnings, the police officer must do what is necessary, even shoot if needed to save maximum no. of lives.

3 1/2
None of these could prove to be a good guide in this regard.

Remarks

RT

Q13. One of the foundational value of public service is 'Selfless Service'. But life is not so black and white. There are grey areas that pushes to compromise with situation to survive. In this context critically analyze and illustrate whether a civil servant can serve 'selflessly'.

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Why selfless service is possible -

① The idea is to put others' interests before those of oneself.

Eg: If an officer is posted in the finance ministry & is in possession of certain confidential information that may yield profits to certain companies. He/she must rightly desist from disclosing this information for a price in the interest of larger public interest.

② To put interests of downtrodden foremost, even at significant personal cost:

Eg: As an officer if certain wrongdoing is unearthed, officer must fearlessly disclose the same even if his/her political bosses transfer him/her to a less liked post or district.

Why there are grey areas -

① How much personal suffering cost is one willing to take in order to help others?

Eg: If an officer with his family is posted in a crime infested village & the mob threatens his family if he opens an investigation into their enemies. Will he put his family in danger to selflessly work for justice to those wronged?

Thus in cases where it is ~~not~~ practically possible, selfless work to help others especially the weaker sections must be done. In cases of grey areas, a practical & balanced solution to safeguard self & at the same time achieve justice for all must be found.

Remarks

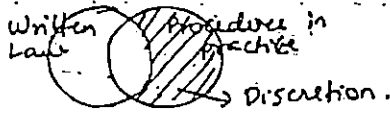
Discuss selflessness first

3

Need not complete your answer with examples only

Q14. "Where law ends, discretion begins, and the exercise of discretion may mean either beneficence or tyranny, either justice or injustice, either reasonableness or arbitrariness". Discuss with reference to the need of ethics in administration.

(150 Words) (10 Marks)



Written Law cannot cover all ground. Certain open areas are always left behind.

- due to it not being practically possible to have a law for all situations
- due to need of flexibility sometimes to deal with cases one size doesn't fit all.

Thus discretion of administration comes into play.

① Positive use of discretion

→ If you are in charge of implementing a scheme & discretion is given to you to ~~see~~ a certain extent to ensure its successful implementation.

② Positive use

→ If a poor needy woman comes to you who is deserving of the subsidy in that scheme, you use your discretion to ^{find, lacks proper documentation} fetch her documents & help her avail the scheme.

③ Negative use

→ You use your discretionary power to ~~even~~ bribe & allow even well-off people to access funds in the scheme if they pay you a bribe.

Thus while discretion in public administration is unavoidable, it must be monitored to prevent misuse. And officials must be sensitized to their ethical duty to ensure positive use of discretion against every

Remarks

Need to answer ^{against} every aspect of the question.

3

Q15. Despite his charity, his integrity and his loyalty, Karna, one of the mightiest characters of Mahabharata suffers all his life. What a public servant can learn from the life of Karna?

(150 Words) (10 Marks)

Karna can teach a public servant many values -

① Self sacrifice

→ He upheld the values he believed in even at great personal cost.

→ Thus an officer must have the courage & conviction to stand by their principles & by what is right.

② He was charitable with compassion for the downtrodden.

→ even an officer must be empathetic & sympathetic to weaker sections & ensure inclusivity.

③ Karna was loyal but to the wrong & immoral side (Kauravas).

→ An officer must choose his loyalties carefully ^{thus} it to the moral duty of public service. Hence loyalty to public interest is a must.

④ Karna always led a life of hard work to achieve his goals.

→ An officer too must be perseverant & consistent in his/her effort while executing their public duty.

Hence from life of Karna, an officer can learn ethical, moral & determined effort while implementing public office to serve their public.

3

Remarks

Need not discuss Karna's life. Use it as reference only.

SECTION - B

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

Q16. You are a doctor in a government hospital. One of your lady friends got married in very rich and influential family. However, with passage of time you came to know that the family is very conservative as she visited you to seek your help in determining sex of the child at fetus stage. As her in-laws want a boy child to act as inheritor of the family. They have also ordered to abort the child if it is girl. Later her in-laws insisted hard and connected the doctor with the health minister on mobile phone. The minister said the doctor to help them in all possible manners without saying anything about the issue at hand. Thus reporting about the issue to police is waste.

Answer the following questions:

- (a) What are the ethical dilemmas in the above case?
- (b) Do you think that your moral obligation also demands to help your friend?
- (c) A doctor in a public or government hospital should obey the health minister for whatever he says. Do you agree and why?
- (d) What steps will you take in the above situation?

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

(A) Ethical dilemmas faced-

- ① Moral responsibility as a doctor to uphold medical ethics and save the girl child.
 → To uphold the rule of law in spirit of PCPNDT act and not do sex determination of fetus.
 → If abortion is done on the grounds that it is a girl, prevent it.
- ② Pressure from health minister and the influential family to determine sex of fetus & abort if it is a girl.
 → Temptation to give into pressure as one's job & future is at stake as a doctor in a government hospital.
- ③ Help the lady friend as her family life is at stake
 → But is committing illegal sex determination & abortion - actually helping her?

Remarks

2 1/2

→ Or is ~~it~~ further reporting this illegal activity to higher authorities & saving lady friend by sensitising her about saving the girl child actually helping her?

(b). As a friend, I do have a moral responsibility to help my friend.

But by helping her in illegal sex determination & abortion (in case of girl child); I will not be truly helping her.

- As this incident may repeat on her 2nd pregnancy
- Harm her health - physical and mental
- Make her think girls are not as good as boys and hence perpetuate the gender bias in society.

2 1/2

True help would be making her aware & sensitising her to the fact that what her family is pressuring her to do is not only illegal (by law) but also immoral (saving life of an innocent girl child).

I will hence prevent her from doing so & give her required moral support to stand up to her family.

(c). No, I do not agree.

① As a doctor, my foremost responsibility is to my patient - to save their lives & health.

② My duty is to uphold the law - if the PCPONT act forbids sex determination & illegal abortion is banned, I will strictly abide by it - even at great personal cost & suffering.

③ If the minister has a legal, written policy directive, I will implement the same diligently.

④ But if minister asks me to commit a crime, I will not

Remarks

follow his orders blindly and report the matter to higher authorities.

what about your professional code of conduct?

2

(d). I will take the following steps -

① Inform the lady friend, the influential family & the health minister about the law & how what they are asking me to do is illegal.

→ Hence politely refuse to commit this crime by citing the law articulately.

② One must have the courage & conviction to stand by what is right, even at significant personal cost.

→ Hence I will not give in to pressure & coercion.

③ Sensitize & educate the lady friend that she must not be coerced by her family into something illegal & immoral like this.

→ give the moral support to stand up to her family.

→ If she is abused or forced at home, report the matter to the police.

→ If the police is unhelpful, go to an NGO to bring media attention & help save her.

④ If the minister still pressurises, ask to inform the higher authorities like the hospital director, state secretary etc about this illegal activity.

Hence no matter how severe the coercion, I will not give in to their illegal demand & I will also ensure that my lady friend has all the required support.

22

over all good approach.

Remarks

Q17. Although India is amongst the fastest growing economies in the world, it still has one third of the world's illiterates. India is now confronting the perils of its failure to educate its citizens, notably the poor. India, being a mixed economy, needs government intervention in the area of education because education driven by profit motive cannot benefit the masses. But the condition of government schools in India is pathetic. Except for two or three states, all the Indian states have poor educational statistics. More Indian children are in school than ever before, but the quality of government schools has sunk to spectacularly low levels. The children in these schools come from the poorest of families - those who cannot afford to send away their young to private schools elsewhere, as do most Indian families who have the means. India has had a legacy of weak schooling for its young, even as it has promoted high-quality government-financed universities. If in the past, a largely poor and agrarian nation could afford to leave millions of its people illiterate, that is no longer the case. Not only has the high growth ensured that we have a shortage of skilled labor, the nation's many new roads, phones and television-sets have also fueled new ambitions for economic advancement among its people - and new expectations for schools to help them achieve it. In the light of the grim picture of public schooling in India suppose you are a District Collector, and a group of poor people approach to make you aware about the pathetic conditions of public schools in their areas. They handed you a letter that contains five problems regarding dismal states of schools i.e.

- (a) Lack of hygienic toilet facility especially for girls as there are common toilets only,
- (b) Non-availability of clean drinking water,
- (c) Lack of proper security,
- (d) Absentee teachers and
- (e) Rude behavior of teachers and staff with the students.

Because of such problem often parents are not sending their children. Dropout rate is also high. Your education minister also expects something concrete from you, as he has to answer local public and media about this issue. With respect to such problems how will you go about providing solutions so that your action may become example for others to learn?

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

With only 3% of GDP invested in Education, the quality of public schooling is dismal. An example is that only 50% of Class III students are able to read a basic class I textbook (as per ASER). This shows the poor learning outcomes.

Remarks

Solutions -

① As the District collector, I would first ensure proper infrastructure for the public schools in the concerned area.

- Hygienic toilets - separate for boys and girls.
- availability of clean drinking water.
- Proper classrooms and, furniture & blackboards?
- Sufficient sports facility as per CBSE and RTE norms.
- Arrangement of transport facility for those who come from far away locations.

② I would enforce teacher attendance in schools -

- Biometric attendance of teachers
- Regular & surprise inspections of schools under my own supervision.
- Take regular reporting from principal.

How about training them ethically?

Enforce

③ Enforce good quality teachers are employed in public schools to improve learning outcomes.

- Are all teachers of required qualifications?
- Do they undergo periodic training and inspections?

④ Enforce a mechanism where regular Parent-Teacher meetings are held periodic feedback from parents is taken.

- This will further highlight areas that can be improved.
- Cooperation between school authorities & parents will increase parent's involvement in child education.

Remarks

Community
policing
can be
handy
in this
regard

⑤ Set basic rules and necessities to ensure proper safety & security of students in public schools.
 → Are the staff and teachers properly screened?
 → Are the regular rounds done by the principal in school to ensure no area/child is unsafe?
 → Many times girls while travelling long distances to schools are eve-teased & hence are under danger. Hence sufficient deployment of patrolling officers on such routes, organising school transport etc are a few solutions.

⑥ Finally to increase quality of public schools, highly nutritious & healthy meals, under PDS, sports infrastructure etc. must also be organised.
 → This further lowers drop out rate.

⑦ As the District Collector, I can also visit public schools in my district, motivate the students & teachers to keep working hard, dream big & take our entire nation to new heights.

Hence...as children are our future, we must focus on their quality education. I will also keep the minister, my superiors & the poor people who wrote the complaint letter informed about the above steps.

Remarks

Q18. The Civil Services Exam is one of the toughest and the longest exam system in the country. With the limited number of attempts and nearly five to six lakh applicants appearing each year, of which only 1,000 or less get selected, there is a huge pressure on the candidates to crack the exam and it may lead to the bouts of depression, anxiety and mental stress. Civil Services candidate faces many issues during the course of the preparation. Many candidates leave their homes and move to metro cities for coaching and preparation. They take up accommodation that gives them little comfort. Most of the aspirants do not know how to cook, and some in order to save time eat at the roadside stalls or depend on 'Dubbawalas.' Having improper food and uncomfortable living, many aspirants end up having health issues. Besides, the coaching institutes in order to produce good results put pressure on the candidates to increase the hours of studies. Loss of sleep impacts the body and the aspirants get totally exhausted. Overall level of stress is very high. For an exam like UPSC, where there is cut-throat competition, the only goal of aspirants is to somehow clear the exam and they ignore the insurmountable pressure on them. You are also one among them. After repeated attempts you failed to qualify this exam and you are in stress as you have lost most valuable time where you could have easily opted for alternate career. One of your best friends has met the same fate and he is in depression. His mother calls you and asks you to take care of her only child. She requests you to motivate him to something big in life, one examination does not make or break everything in life. In the given scenario, how will you motivate yourself and your friend? And, how will you cope with your stress?

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

UPSC exam is indeed cutthroat leading to immense mental pressure & stress amongst its candidates.

I will do the following to motivate myself and my friend -

① The first thing to do in defeat is not to lose self confidence.

→ Even after repeated efforts, if I have failed, I will first analyse where and how I went wrong in my preparation.

I will encourage my friend to do the same.

② If I find after some thought that I could have done more effort or corrected my strategy in some way to get more marks, I will do so in my

Remarks

Need to focus the bright side whatever you gain during preparation

next attempt.

I will advice the same to my friend.

③ To continue having faith in myself, I will try to understand that ^{you} life is much bigger. UPSC may not be everyone's cup of tea.

→ What if Sachin Tendulkar tried to make singing his profession?

→ Hence I will continue to have confidence in myself.

④ I will try to analyse my strengths & weakness and think in what ~~can~~ alternate career, I ~~can~~ excel.

⑤ I will not regret the time invested in the UPSC preparation as I have learnt a lot from it, knowledge is never wasted.

Also as Samuel Becket says, "Ever tried? Ever failed? No matter. Try harder, for again. Fail Again. Fail. Better".

Thus I will be satisfied that I dreamed, and I tried. If not this mountain, I will scale another.

Cope with stress

① I will indulge in sports & outdoor activities.

Scientifically, ~~step~~ exercise helps release endorphins in the body which help in reducing stress.

② I will keep relaxing in between with friends and family to take breaks.

→ social interactions helps one stay grounded in reality.

Remarks

→ It also helps in understanding oneself & society better by intellectual discussions.

③ Spiritual development of the soul is another therapy for stress.

→ Activities like yoga & meditation help calm the stressed mind.

④ Finally, making a back-up plan is an alternate career path that satisfies one is of utmost necessity to relieve oneself of mental stress.

→ It also helps one get rid of the fear of failure.

Thus life is a game of trial & error. One should have the faith & confidence to get back up after a failure & continue life with the same enthusiasm & positivity.

8

Remarks

Q19. Mr. 'X' had applied under RTI Act to the District Planning Officer who was also PIO, asking information about unspent balance of the last five years on account of MPLAD funds. The name of a particular MP was mentioned in the RTI application. The PIO knew applicant to be a political opponent of the particular M.P. The PIO came to know informally about the applicant's plan to discredit the sitting M.P. in the forthcoming General Elections, by bringing these information in the knowledge of the voters.

The following are some suggested options for PIO. Evaluate the merits and demerits of the options.

- (a) PIO should ask M.P. whether he should provide these information to the applicant because MP is third party in the case. According to the act, third party consent is mandatory.
- (b) PIO should refuse to provide information because the applicant might use these information against the local M.P. to discredit him.
- (c) PIO should provide all the information as has been requested whether local M.P. likes or not.
- (d) PIO should seek the guidance of District Collector Cum District Election Officer because information sought is related to his jurisdiction and is political in nature.

Also please indicate (without necessarily restricting to the above options) what PIO should do in future in order to avoid such controversies?

(250 Words) (20 Marks)

~~IF as per RTI act, M.P comes under the definition of 3rd party & if 3rd party consent is mandatory then PIO may inform the M.P about the case. But even if the M.P directs the PIO to not disclose the information, the PIO should strictly abide by the law and release information.~~

~~IF under the act there is no requirement to inform the MP as this is public data under the MPLADS scheme, the PIO must need not inform the MP & release the information.~~

~~① PIO must have courage & conviction to stand by the law even if at a personal cost to him/her.~~

~~② PIO must release information as per RTI & any wrong doing by MP must be brought to light fearlessly.~~

Remarks

(a) Merits

- ① The M.P. can be pacified by asking him for permission. Hence PIO may gain personally by giving the MP a favour.
- ② If 3rd MP comes under 3rd party definition under law & his permission is required, PIO is abiding by the law.

Demerits

- ① As a PIO, 3rd party consent is required only for personal data & unspent balance under MPLADS comes under public funds ∴ no consent should be required.
- ② By asking for permission, PIO is showing undue favour to the MP & if MP says no then potential wrong doing may be covered up.
- ③ Thus PIO is not doing his duty legally nor morally.

2 1/2

(b) Merits

- ① PIO can gain ^{favour} with the sitting M.P. by refusing. Thus he gains personally.
- ② This will also save him time by simply saying no to the applicant.

Is he there to serve M.P.'s interest?

Demerits

- ① PIO is shirking his duty to uphold RTI act. If allowed under the act, he must disclose the necessary information.
- ② ~~Shirking~~ In the future when applicant files appeal, investigating authority may ask the PIO the grounds of refusal. ~~which~~ Thus he/she may suffer consequences for this partial act.

2

Remarks

1.2.

Demerits

- ① The sitting MP may bear a grudge against the PIO.
- ② The political party of MP may penalise the PIO.

Merits

- ① PIO upholds the law & does his/her duty.
- ② PIO stands fearlessly with what is right despite threat of peroration transfer etc by MP or his political party.
- ③ If there was any wrongdoing by MP, he will be brought to justice & corruption by MPs will be curbed ∴ public interest is upheld.

25

(d).

Merits

- ① Guidance of superiors i.e. District collector may help the PIO as they are experienced.
- ② Superior is kept informed of what is happening in their jurisdiction.

Demerits

- ① PIO should not blindly follow advice, must use his/her own judgement.
- ② They may favour the MP & prevent PIO from releasing the information.

25

What the PIO should do in future -

- ① If such a nature of request is made, first study the law and see if MP is indeed a 3rd party & if their consent is required.
- ② Inform keep the superiors informed of all developments in the case.
- ③ If information can be released by law, do so fearlessly.
- ④ If information cannot be released by law, give the reasons in writing to the applicant.

Remarks

- over all good approach

Q20. One small area of a district headquarter town is in the grip of encroachment. As a result, people face lots of problems due to the congestion of roads and the most affected lot are senior citizens, who face difficulty in crossing the congested and crowded roads. This is creating a problem around two roundabouts and two parks of that area. Besides, area is also very dirty and there is no arrangement of cleanliness. Senior citizens of that area have appealed to the state government to appoint a young but disciplined and energetic officer in the town to take care of the problems and grievances of the people. Executive officer of the local civic body said they were doing their best to clear the encroachments in the town from time to time. However, once the encroachments were removed, the same people find other sites in the same area to be encroached upon. Residents desire that there should be some attempts to beautify these places as are done in many other cities of the country. They also want beautification of parks so that even children can play. Local MLA is also ready to fund. You are Municipal Commissioner of the city and when a delegation of eminent people has 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 provide with resources.

What are the issues before you in this case & how you will execute options effectively?
(250 Words) (20 Marks)

The issues in this case are -

- ① Encroachment in many areas in the district headquarter town.
 - Even after repeated attempts to clear encroachments, they crop up in some area in the town.
 - How to sustainably remove them to ease congestion in the city?
 - How to rehabilitate those who are compelled to encroach?
 - Build a permanent structure - housing or market to resettle encroachments so that both parties find an agreeable solution.
- ② Flexibility of state policy to meet specific demands of senior citizens like crossing congested roads, responsive officers.
- ③ Needs of cleanliness & hygiene of town areas for health purposes. Also beautification of city & parks.

Remarks

to encourage outdoor activities, especially those of children.

① Build a responsive administration that quickly resolves grievances of local citizens.

② Meet the funding deficit required to tackle the above issues. It's MLA not M.P.
 → while the [MP] is ready to fund, the finance & accounts department is reluctant.
 → As money is required to take any governance reform, planning to minimise expenditure & flexibility to tap all sources is the challenge here.

How to execute options effectively -

① To tackle encroachments, a survey of area must be done to map illegal occupation.

→ before thoughtlessly throwing out inhabitants of these encroachments, first plans for their permanent resettlement must be made.

* If they are slums, alternate legal housing under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana can be organised.

* If they are street hawkers, regulated street markets with proper licenses can be set up for them.

→ Once the alternate permanent structure is ready, encroachers may be resettled in them & roads become free from congestion.

② Needs of senior citizens can be met by ensuring inclusive policy making for all.

→ for road crossing, zebra crossing, green & red signals for

Remarks

case can be constructed.

- ④ For hygiene, cleanliness & beautification, as a Municipal Commissioner I will ensure planting trees, modernising obsolete structures, repairing etc.
 → This will further lead to world class infrastructure.
- ④ Necessary governance reforms like speedy grievance redressal, citizens charter, sensitising officers of their accountability etc. can build a more responsive administration.
- ⑤ Funding for the above ~~can~~ be organised from-
 - MPLADS funds from local MP
 - writing govt. accounts & finance departments by showing them proposals for frugal investment
 - using private sector by competitive bidding or Corporate Social Responsibility.

Thus, these steps as a Municipal Commissioner may bring necessary change and solve problems of locals.

8½

good

What can be the other sources of funds?

Remarks

