

GENERAL STUDIES

PAPER - IV

Time Allowed : 3 hours

Full Marks : 100

Marks for each question is indicated against it.

Attempt any 10 (ten) questions taking at least 2 (two) but not more than 3 (three) questions from each Unit.

UNIT - I

1. What do you understand by 'ethics'? In what ways do ethics influence public relationships? **(4+6=10)**
2. "Ethical dilemmas mostly arise when specific rules conflict, or produce adverse unplanned consequences in a given situation." Discuss. **(10)**
3. "Social values are more important than economic values." Discuss the statement with examples in the context of inclusive growth of Mizoram, and the role played in it by the society. **(5+5=10)**
4. Given below are two quotations of great leaders. Discuss what they mean to you. **(5+5=10)**
 - (a) "Silence becomes cowardice when occasion demands speaking out the whole truth and acting accordingly." – Mahatma Gandhi
 - (b) "If you want to leave your footprints on the sands of time, do not drag it" – APJ Abdul Kalam.

UNIT - II

5. What is attitude? Critically examine its influence and relation with thought and behaviour. **(3+7=10)**
6. Differentiate between empathy and compassion in the context of public service. Give examples. **(5+5=10)**
7. Briefly describe the concept of 'emotional intelligence' and how it can be developed in employees. How will it help an individual employee in taking ethical decisions? **(5+5=10)**
8. Examine and elucidate the statement made by Abraham Lincoln that "Nearly all men can withstand adversity, but if you want to test a man's character, give him power." **(10)**

UNIT - III

9. What is voice of conscience? How do you, as a civil servant, prepare yourself to comply with your voice of conscience? **(4+6=10)**
10. Every organisation including government and private institutions has three essential parts: structure, process and behaviour. In your opinion, how is ethics involved in each of these aspects? **(10)**
11. “International politics, like all politics, is a struggle for power”. Discuss the statement in the context of ethics in international relations. **(10)**
12. What do you understand by the term ‘probity’? In what way can probity ensure accountability in governance in today’s world? **(4+6=10)**

UNIT - IV

13. You are a strong believer in social participation and have been an active participant in your local community based organisation to which your entire community belongs. You avidly helped build the community hall for your locality even during your college days, and you were even elected as one of the secretaries under the organisation twice. When you entered government service, you find yourself holding an administrative post in your own district with jurisdiction over your own locality. One day your superior informs you that the very community hall that you helped build when you were younger is an illegal construction on a government property and needs to be demolished.

You are shocked to hear this and upon verification found the information passed by your superior is true. You, like other members of your locality, have emotional attachment to the building. Your personal ethics and values are holding you back from taking the initiative to demolish the illegal construction, but your profession demands so. Besides, you fear the destruction of such a building belonging to your community will turn your own community against you. This situation pulls you into an emotional and ethical dilemma.

- (a) Examine the above case from the viewpoint of a clash between personal and professional ethics.
 - (b) What will be your response? Give reasons. **(5+5=10)**
14. You work in a government land revenue and settlement office. You have access to some confidential and crucial information about decisions that the Government is about to announce. These decisions are likely to have far-reaching consequences on the land owned by the people living along the coast of a certain river. If anybody has access to this information beforehand, they can make huge profits with regard to compensation of the land by buying up the land. Your immediate superior asks you and a few other officers to join him in acquiring the land along the said river from the owners in order to make profit in terms of land compensation when the Government’s decision is eventually announced.
 - (a) Would it be an act of corruption if you do as you were asked?
 - (b) Justify the action you are most likely to take in such a situation. **(5+5=10)**

- 15.** As a developing country, economic development is of utmost importance if we are to keep pace with the rest of the world. At the same time, we must be concerned about environmental degradation brought about by development. Hence, we often face conflict between developmental activity and environmental quality. It is neither feasible to stop the developmental process, nor is it advisable to keep degrading the environment, as it threatens our own survival.

Suggest 2 (two) feasible strategies which could be adopted to eliminate this conflict and which could lead to sustainable development. **(5+5=10)**

- 16.** Under the RTI Act, a Public Information Officer (PIO) has received an application. Having gathered the information, the PIO discovers that the information pertains to a wrong decision taken by him in consultation with his colleagues. Disclosure of the information is likely to lead to disciplinary action. Non-disclosure or part disclosure of information will result in no punishment. This PIO comes to you for advice.

(a) What courses of action does the PIO may take?

(b) What would be your own advice and why?

(5+5=10)

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