



# VISIONIAS

INSPIRING INNOVATION

## सामान्य अध्ययन/GENERAL STUDIES: Test – 2348 (2024)

निर्धारित समय: तीन घंटे

Time Allowed: Three Hours

अधिकतम अंक: 250

Maximum Marks: 250

### प्रश्न-पत्र संबंधी विशेष अनुदेश

कृपया प्रश्नों के उत्तर देने से पूर्व निम्नलिखित प्रत्येक अनुदेश को ध्यानपूर्वक पढ़ें:

इसमें बारह प्रश्न हैं जो दो खण्डों में विभाजित हैं तथा अंग्रेजी में छपे हुए हैं।

सभी प्रश्न अनिवार्य हैं।

प्रत्येक प्रश्न/भाग के अंक उसके सामने दिए गए हैं।

प्रश्नों के उत्तर उसी प्राधिकृत माध्यम में लिखे जाने चाहिए जिसका उल्लेख आपके प्रवेश-पत्र में किया गया है, और इस माध्यम का स्पष्ट उल्लेख प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर (क्यू.सी.ए.) पुस्तिका के मुख-पृष्ठ पर निर्दिष्ट स्थान पर किया जाना चाहिए। प्राधिकृत माध्यम के अतिरिक्त अन्य किसी माध्यम में लिखे गए उत्तर पर कोई अंक नहीं मिलेंगे।

प्रश्नों में इंगित शब्द सीमा को ध्यान में रखिए।

प्रश्न-सह-उत्तर पुस्तिका में खाली छोड़ा हुआ पृष्ठ या उसके अंश को स्पष्ट रूप से काटा जाना चाहिए।

### QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

*Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:*

There are **TWELVE** questions divided in **TWO SECTIONS** and printed in **ENGLISH**.

*All questions are compulsory.*

*The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.*

*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 a medium other than the authorized one.*

*Keep the word limit indicated in the questions in mind.*

*Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questions-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.*

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## SECTION A

Answer the following questions in not more than 150 words each:

1. (a) What do you understand by empathy? Discuss its significance in public service. (Answer in 150 words) 10  
(b) What is virtue ethics? How is it significant for a public servant? (Answer in 150 words) 10
2. (a) Celebrity endorsement as an advertising and marketing tool involves multiple ethical dilemmas. Discuss with examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10  
(b) Discuss the significance of objectivity and impartiality in the functioning of civil services. (Answer in 150 words) 10
3. Write short notes on the following: 20
  - (i) Crisis of conscience
  - (ii) Non-partisanship
  - (iii) Dedication to public service
  - (iv) Coercive corruption
  - (v) Participative governance
4. (a) What are the ethical dilemmas faced by public servants in India while executing their duties? How can they be resolved? (Answer in 150 words) 10  
(b) Fortitude is the guard and support of other virtues. Discuss in context of the civil services in India. (Answer in 150 words) 10
5. (a) Which ethical principles are involved in conducting scientific research and experiments? Explain using examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10  
(b) How can the 'Noble Eightfold Path' of Buddhism be significant for public services in India? (Answer in 150 words) 10
6. What does each of the following quotations mean to you?
  - (a) Ethical principles cannot be universally applied to all peoples at all times. Do you agree? (Answer in 150 words) 10
  - (b) What is the role of accountability in promoting good governance in India? Illustrate with examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10
  - (c) Do you agree that the values of persuasion and social influence play an effective role in public service? Explain with suitable examples. (Answer in 150 words) 10



## SECTION B

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

7. You are a young and dynamic person preparing for the civil services examination conducted every year by the UPSC. During your preparation, you come across various instances, which make you think that we live in a time where almost everything can be bought and sold. Over the past few years, markets and market values have come to govern our lives as never before. You realise that the logic of buying and selling no longer applies to material goods alone but increasingly governs the whole of life. However, you also feel that markets have become detached from morals and we need to somehow reconnect them. The use of markets to allocate social goods has also been a cause of concern. In your opinion:
- (a) What could be the consequences of this transition to a society where everything is for sale?
- (b) Are there some things that money can not buy? Illustrate with examples. (Answer in 250 words) 20
8. You have been working as the District Education Officer (DEO) in a district with a large rural population. The Sarpanch of a village that falls in your district informs you of a unique situation that he has been facing. A cook belonging to the Dalit community was recently inducted in the village primary school. When parents of the children studying in the school got to know about this, they started sending their children after the lunch break to avoid getting served the mid-day meal. This continued for a while and after some time, they stopped sending their children to the school altogether. This is not only hampering the education of the children but also disturbing the social harmony in the village. The Sarpanch further informs you that he has been continuously meeting responsible adults from all the communities to resolve the issue, but all his efforts have been in vain. Moreover, a couple of days ago, some parents intimated him that if the present circumstances continued they will boycott the village primary school.
- The Sarpanch desperately wants this issue to be resolved at the earliest and looks up to you for direction.
- In light of the situation, answer the following:
- (a) Identify the stakeholders and the issues involved in the above situation.
- (b) What options do you have as the DEO to resolve the situation?
- (c) Critically examine the options listed by you.
- (d) What will be your course of action? Justify with proper reasoning. (Answer in 250 words) 20
9. The International Climate Summit is a major global platform where nations convene to discuss strategies to combat climate change. At the recent Summit, delegates faced a complex ethical issue wherein the developed nations, historically responsible for a significant share of greenhouse gas emissions, were in favour of setting the same emissions reduction targets for all the countries. They argued that this approach is fair and necessary given the urgent need to combat climate change. On the other hand, developing nations contended that they should have lower reduction targets. They argued that developed nations have historically contributed more to climate change, and moreover, these nations became wealthy through industrial processes that emitted vast quantities of greenhouse gases. The developing nations maintained that they should be permitted to follow a similar path to economic development, which would naturally involve higher emissions in the short



term. In the middle of these contentions, small island nations faced an existential crisis due to rising sea levels, pleading for urgent and substantial actions from all nations.

Considering the above case study, answer the following questions:

- (a) What is climate justice and why is it needed?
- (b) What are some equitable solutions to this crisis? (Answer in 250 words) 20

10. You are the Municipal Commissioner of a city where a shocking incident took place recently. A group of stray dogs attacked and bit a 4-year-old child to death. While his family and relatives had gathered and were preparing for his cremation, his younger brother went to a nearby area to relieve himself. There, he too was attacked and bitten to death by the stray dogs. This incident has shaken the entire neighbourhood and people have come to streets in protest. Earlier too, there have been many complaints of stray dogs attacking people in the city.

But after the unfortunate incident of the stray dogs killing the two children, the anger among residents is particularly high. The media too has been constantly reporting the incident and arguing that the Municipality has not taken any action for the last three years against the stray dogs. There is an increasing demand from a substantial section of the residents that all stray dogs must be found and captured by the Municipality and sent to shelter homes or euthanized.

At the same time, a few animal rights NGOs have threatened that they would protest if any such cruel action is taken against the dogs. The law too, prohibits cruelty against all animals, including stray dogs.

Being the Municipal Commissioner, you know that there is a lack of resources in terms of finance and personnel to handle the situation and it is not possible to bring all the dogs to shelter homes. The state government has asked you to submit a report on the situation and take steps to deal with it, given the public attention it has garnered.

Given the situation, answer the following:

- (a) What are the options available to you under the given situation?
- (b) Critically examine the options listed by you.
- (c) What course of action will you take?
- (d) In the above scenario, what long-term measures can be taken to deal with the increasing menace of stray dogs in cities across India? (Answer in 250 words) 20

11. Doctors in one of the states of the country went on a strike due to which only the emergency hospital services were available. This was a reaction to multiple instances of doctors being beaten up by patients' relatives and the government being reluctant to take any action. The doctors have demanded a safe work environment, as they are very fearful to work due to such incidents. On the other hand, patients and their relatives complain that doctors are being careless and due to their negligent behaviour, they have to suffer a lot. Their argument is that the gross negligence of doctors, at times, has even resulted in deaths of their family members.

In light of the information given above, address the following:

- (a) Is it appropriate for doctors to go on strikes to address their grievances? Justify your opinion.
- (b) What future strategies should be adopted to effectively address the issues faced by both doctors and patients? (Answer in 250 words) 20



12. You are a young officer who has recently been posted as the District Magistrate in a tribal district where industrial emissions owing to a nearby thermal power plant and mining are prevalent. In order to offset some of the emissions, a wind power project is being proposed in your district, which has the potential to not only meet the energy demand of your district but also that of neighbouring districts, and also provide employment opportunities for the people of your district. However, tribals from the district are protesting against it because of the concerns of deforestation that will pave the way for the project and the displacement of people that the project may lead to.

Further, the tribal leaders are vehemently against the cutting of forests, as it would hurt their religious and cultural sentiments. However, this green project has been sanctioned after a long wait of 5 years and if does not commence, the district might not see another green project for a long time. Due to this, other industries would also be discouraged from setting up their business in the district. However, it has been brought to your notice that prominent local tribal leaders have mobilized a large crowd and are planning to march towards the Collectorate to protest. The media has also covered the issue widely.

In the context of this situation, answer the following:

- (a) What are the ethical issues involved in the above case?
- (b) What measures would you take as the District Magistrate to deal with the case?  
(Answer in 250 words)

20