

# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES COMMENT SHEET 1697

|                   |                |                     |        |
|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|--------|
| Name of Candidate | Aranksha Yadav |                     |        |
| Medium Eng./Hindi | English        | Registration Number | 974747 |
| Center            |                | Date                |        |

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

16-B, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Above National Trust Building, Bada Bazar Marg, Old Rajinder Nagar, Delhi-110060

Plot No. 857, 1st Floor, Banda Bahadur Marg (Opp Punjab & Sindh Bank), Dr. Mukherjee Nagar  
Delhi- 110009

## EVALUATION INDICATORS

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

Overall Macro Comments / feedback / suggestions on Answer Booklet:

1.

2.

3.

4.

5.

6.

**All the Best**

81  
(a)

RTI Act, 2009 is a milestone in national democracy as it promotes transparency and empowers citizens.

Reasons for criticism

\* recent RTI amendment act that reduces term and status of CICs - chief information commissioner

↓

reduces independence

\* Section 4 - voluntary disclosure of RTI by department is impeded by lack of maintenance of digital infrastructure.

eg: mugger.in sits

↓

unupdated info

\* exemption provided to many institutions like [CB]



# U.P.S.C.

प्रश्न संख्या  
(Question No.)

2

प्रश्न वाचन से कुछ  
न लिखें  
(Don't write anything  
in this part)

★ Official secrets Act, 1923 is used to deny info on the basis of 'national security' that is <sup>not</sup> clearly defined

★ Political parties are not considered 'public institutions' hence not covered.

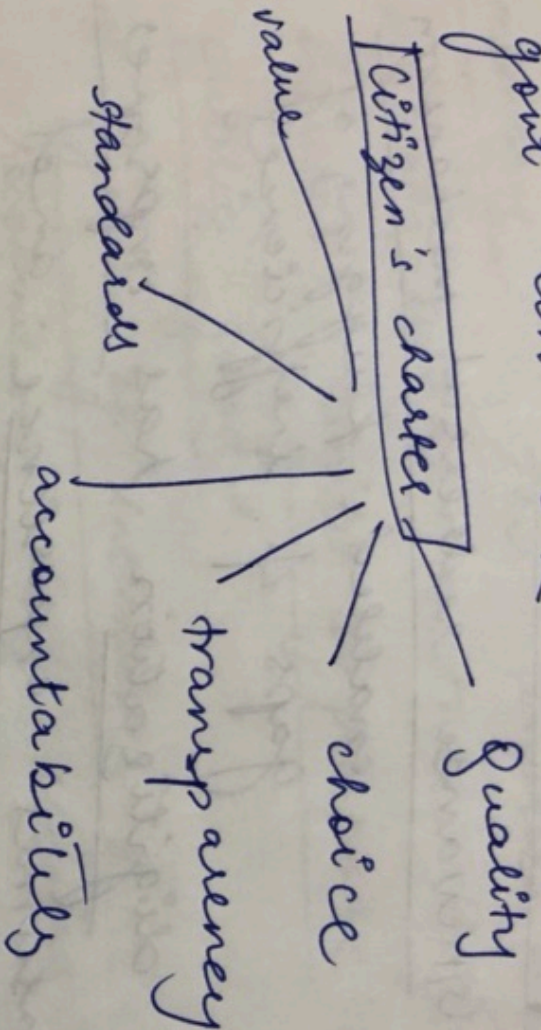
Despite criticism, RTI is constantly evolving eg → SC declared TCJ1 to come under RTI.

Information is a powerful tool of democracy, RTI <sup>we</sup> must be encouraged



(b)

Citizen's charter was introduced in 1993 by form Mayor's govt in UK



India's CC includes 'expectations' from clients' as well

Increased Accountability:

→ citizens are more aware of their rights due to written and institutionalized

nature of CC

→ puts pressure on departments to perform

→ constant evaluations like

SEVOTTAM Model point

to the need of keeping up



# U.P.S.C.

4

- ★ CEs are available on websites as a matter of public domain
- ★ Grievance redressal mechanism enabled plugging of gaps & inefficiencies
- ★ digitization has improved consumer experience and tracked delivery of public services; eg getting: address online
- ★ Ensured movement of citizens groups ensures oversight and ensures trust between service providers & consumers



3(a)

Civil Services Report, 2004 stresses on building institutional memory. This implies an organizational culture that ensures unity of purpose i.e. - public good.

\* system of incentives & recognition by seniors can motivate members and provide incentive to work hard

\* ensuring probity (satyanarista) of procedures will ensure integrity of procedure

↓  
individuals will be  
productive

↓  
can goodwill for  
the organization as  
a whole

\* ensuring protection to whistleblowers can



enable honest functioning without  
fear or favour

★ culture of openness : like  
↳ sugaryum (IAS) - published  
his financial records that  
motivated other staff  
members to do the same

This is example of leading  
by example

Hence, Organisation's integrity  
is maintained by its  
procedures and integrity of  
members that create  
institutional memory motivating  
others and creating  
"good governance"



(b)

Civil servants are the point of interface between administration and public.

By being good leaders, civil servants can ensure public confidence, emotional connect with population, communicate effectively and be source of inspiration for other society members.

Importance of leadership

① can lead to social change;

by dealing with social evils like untouchability.

↳ lead by example

↳ include sharing meals, involvement in

develop new activities

②

challenge culture of corruption

and speaking "truth to power"

eg: 1st Sarma (IAS officer)

refused to follow orders that he considered "anti people".



# U.P.S.C.

8

★ ensure effective and dissemination  
of schedules - business revenue  
image of bureaucratic - business revenue

★ agents of change through  
innovation: eg: exchanging  
↓  
rude heavy  
↓  
vice plastic  
submitted  
by people

Civil servants have to be dynamic,  
effective leadership can  
inspire confidence & transform  
society



3(a)

digitization ensures better monitoring, reducing leakages, expenditure management

Advantages

① Health -

EVIN platform

\* enables timely and targeted delivery of vaccination

\* ensures vaccines are not out of stock

② PDs

- \* online deport system  
\* end to end computerisation

Health food security

for the most marginalized

↓  
conf assionate governance

digitization improves customer experience as services can be ordered without redundant red tape



1. Adaptation

→ generation of data

creates synergies

between  
departments

find's silo-ization

↓  
creates efficiency,  
avoids duplication

## Settlement Policy

① enforcement  
of individuals

① increase faith  
in administrators

Digitization can transform  
service delivery and ensure  
"good governance".



(b)

Political attitude is a result of various factors

↳ Identity

class  
caste  
religion  
gender } has the potential to lead to polarisation.  
vote bank politics

Identity is multidimensional and this multidimensionality shapes political attitude that aligns with one's moral and ethical framework as well leads to empowerment of the individual.

↳ historical experience :

oppression makes one recognize the potential for human dignity

eg: colonial rule led to democratic attitude of national leaders

↳ education : increases social awareness and opens the to different thoughtes



\* Socialization and community  
family and social milieu  
 condition our existence and  
 help us form opinions.  
 ↳ can lead to imbibing  
 stereotypes & prejudices.

Hence, A balanced political  
attitude requires balancing  
 of critical thinking ~~and~~  
~~and~~ within the ethical  
framework of community  
 and nation



(a)

Education without morals, makes  
man more of a clever  
devil - [CS Lewis]

Education is not mere  
literacy but an allround  
development of personality  
that makes one a better  
person and asset to

Society  
Education without morals is  
dangerous because it  
deprives of directions to actions.  
Morals are like the pole star  
that provide guidance.

Education without morals:  
consequences

\* individualistic attitude  
that doesn't care  
for society

\* using science without  
principles - eg: Chinese doctor  
made gun earlier



\* without morality, education cannot be channelled to "public good"

\* Intelligence without moral framework will lead to vices like corruption, money-mindedness, lack of sympathy.

Education forms the basis of human behaviour; without morality; it can be a threat to society.



(b)

This quote enunciates the view that right does not always have the largest numbers.

One has to urge the abuse of 'majoritarian morality' and think for oneself."

A wrong does not become a right by the majority shares in it.

- Tolstoy.

Personal conscience becomes the guiding light when one finds oneself in minority.

Courage of conviction ensures that the individual is not worn down by peer pressure and forces of others. For eg:

Accepting drugs to improve performance because everyone is doing it does not mean it is the right thing to do. even if it helps oneself.



# U.P.S.C.

16

Challenging wrong takes heavily  
 but is an essential quality  
 of a civil servant and people  
 in general



Q5  
(a)

Technology has potential to do both harm and good.  
Hence, digital literacy is of paramount importance.

**AI** : lack of understanding of influence

\* makes people vulnerable to targetted advertising

\* can influence voters

eg: Cambridge Analytica  
\* consumer behavior collected

and analysed without  
consent can lead to  
"predictive shopping"

\* Use social media to  
manipulate emotions by  
repeated propaganda  
enabled "personalized targeting"



# U.P.S.C.

18

At macro level can lead to  
data kleptocracy where  
rich tech companies monetize  
poor people's data.

AI has to be understood IA  
across domains  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{political} \\ \text{commerce} \end{array} \right]$  so  
individual

that it can be harnessed for  
"public good".



(b)

Media is known as the 4th  
pillar and the "watchdog  
of democracy"

Ensuring prosperity

\* bring govt policies,  
inefficiencies in public  
domain

\* decrease knowledge  
gap between citizens  
and government

\* ensures public interest  
in governance through  
easy access and language

\* criticizes govt so that  
government is more responsive  
to citizen's needs

\* expands citizen awareness  
by conducting debates  
that show multiple viewpoints



- ★ Media ensures govt functions under the rule of law and honours public trust ,
- ★ Media also exposes graft , corruption   
 (common weaver's can)
- and forms public opinion .
- Free & independent Media is essential to the effective functioning of media



Q6

A civil servant functions as a bridge between govt and citizens.

It occupies position of public trust and reflects the public [represents] the public and democratic institutions.

Ethical behaviour of civil servant ensures that administration runs smoothly and promotes inclusive development.

Ethical behaviour is also important to resolve conflict of interest and moral dilemmas public officers face often because of the nature of work.

Gandhi's staple man, adherence to rule of law can be guiding light.



# U.P.S.C.

22

A civil servant is the face of  
administration and unethical  
behaviour ~~so~~ like tribe taking  
can erode public faith.

It is essential they show  
high personal integrity to  
fulfill promise of the office  
~~and~~ ~~to~~



Q7

After family, the next most important sociolizing principle is the school -

Inculcating EI

→ problem solving classes where students are given situations of crisis

→ group activities - to ensure building

of communication skills

- \* negotiation
- \* persuasion
- \* compromise

→ Counsellors

\* to ensure students have guidance when they are unable to resolve issues themselves

→ involving parents and sensitizing them to the unique needs of their child



# U.P.S.C.

24

★ appreciating and encouraging  
diversity and difference so  
students feel confidence

emotional intelligence will  
enable self awareness, self  
regulation, empathy that  
will help them in their  
careers, relationships and  
make them responsible  
citizens.



Q

we have institutions like  
CAG, CVC, CBI and  
parliamentary committees like  
Public Accounts Committee that  
ensure legislative financial  
probity and honest work  
by public servants.

The money belongs to the  
public and is held by  
trust and social contract  
with public officials. People  
should be able to ask  
questions

Transparency, Accountability  
and efficiency principles should  
be employed in Public  
finance management system to  
ensure

- correct use of money
- elimination of leakages
- removing scope of  
corruption



# U.P.S.C.

26

→ information in public domain  
↓

use & employ data as a  
public good

→ inspire trust in citizens and  
nudge them towards civic  
duties like paying taxes as  
they will be able to see  
that their money is being  
put to use in national  
development







later generations will have to pay for the cost (financial, ecological and psychological) for environment degradation.

→ As sustainability officer, I would face the dilemma of reporting the shortcoming and opening the possibility of plant shutdown → endangering livelihood of

on the other hand ignoring the problem would lead to dereliction of my duty

→ Villagers, lacking other means of employment, are caught in the balance

→ Company's profit is also put into question plus increased expenditure on plant upgradation, environment suits etc



(b)

As sustainability officer, I will stress to the <sup>CEO</sup> that balances profitability of the enterprise through triple bottom line approach

```

graph TD
    Profit --- 3Ps[3Ps]
    People --- 3Ps
    Planet --- 3Ps
  
```

I will suggest following

① Using CSR funds to clean rivers, undo degradation in surrounding areas

② Inform local people about the extent and danger of contamination after conducting

detailed study

③ enlist help of local government (PRIs) to increase awareness and participation

④ Upgrade machinery (technosolutioning) to ensure that byproduct



is treated and detoxified.

⑤ Relief (financial + social) should be granted to people negatively impacted to maintain goodwill and avoid expensive suits in courts.

⑥ Immediate shutdown of the activity causing by-product release

all of this would ensure loyalty to company, sustainability of operation, create positive brand image and increase profitability in the long run despite causing heavy expenditure in the moment.

I will put forward the importance of compassionate capitalism and trusteeship model as a democratic duty as well as the business sense



it makes in the long run.

Q10  
a)  
(a) Technology is a double edged sword that if practiced without ethical framework can cause negative effects on individuals and create negative externalities on the nation as a whole

- Threat to democracy  
↳ can lead to polarizing of communities due to vote bank politics that deploy deepfakes to spread falsehoods about other communities.

↳ can disproportionately target marginalized communities like migrants, SCs, STs in combination with fake news.

eg: "mob lynching" caused by whatsapp forwards  
SC has declared "mobocracy" as a threat to democracy



- deepfakes can lead to confirmation bias reducing  
to critical thinking

↓  
"moles have passions, not  
brains"

→ used to target women

↓  
cyberbullying

↓  
outraging modesty of  
women

↓  
psychological / mental  
stress

→ (NCRB notes rising instance  
of cyber crime against  
women)

Deepfakes can lead to erosion  
of trust in <sup>democratic</sup> institutions,  
promote liar's dividend, weaken  
social fabric. On the individual  
level it can lead to bullying,  
extortion and immoral  
acts like fake pornography



(b) Minimising the impact of disruptive technologies like AI requires spreading awareness about it

★ workshops to be held to encourage digital literacy, and identification of fake news & deepfakes at

TEC  
activities

- school level
- community centres
- local community leaders should be involved

★ Reporting mechanism to stall spread of deepfakes  
↳ eg: appointing officers at district level

↳ ~~For~~ Tech companies to regulate their platform.

eg: ① limiting no. of forwards by whatsapp

② Oversight board constituted by FB



- Using technology to regulate technology
  - Algorithms to search for patterns and identity deepfakes
- ↳ creating <sup>skilled</sup> human resources and institutions
- ↳ separate law targetting online fake news, deepfakes
- ↳ Govt + Industry co-operation for policy setting.
- ↳ [Citizen groups] <sup>NGOs, SHGs</sup> should be involved in awareness generation as well as policy making



Q.11  
(a)

Issues involved in the situation are multi-dimensional and involve multiple stakeholders

⊗ Government servant is bound to do his duty according to the law of the land ensuring prolity (Satyanishtha)

Issues involved

\* countervailing claims on land

↳ inquiring legality of construction

↳ if illegal, question about ethics of demotion

in the name of law and depriving people of homes

\* MLA's violence done without regard to his position.

↓  
promoting culture of impunity



\* representation of interests of  
habitants without violence,  
showing democratic leadership

\* Claims of people on the  
land to build house V/s  
optimum use of public land



issue of legality  
and determining  
"common good"

\* issues of bureaucrat-business  
nexus that jeopardizes  
spirit of public service  
without gain (nistkama  
karma)



(b) Options available

① MLA

- ① ↳ lead protest peacefully
- ② ↳ apologize to public servant  
↓  
set good leadership example

③ Urge authorities to investigate  
any unfair motive and  
business man - bureaucrat nexus

④ This according to me would  
be correct path, instead of  
earlier action of using force

rule of law  
is violated

↓  
lessens public  
trust in  
politicians

↓  
culture of  
"chalta hai"

② Govt servant

- to come clean on allegations
- publish his financial records in the spirit of public disclosure.  
eg: Suganyam (T. N)  
IAS officer



\* carry his duties with compassion and public interest in mind

\* use emotional intelligence objectively to understand different stakeholders

\* take guidance from senior officers and lodge complaint against MLA for violence

Other option

→ keep carrying out demolitions

↓  
cause erosion of trust  
on bureaucrats  
↓  
alienate locals

↓  
might undermine  
common good

Grant official needs to balance democratic v/s

bureaucratic principles to ensure governance & administration that is compassionate



Q12  
(a)

Punishment without reformation  
and change in attitude is  
ineffectual and can have  
negative consequences

① Children get scared of authority  
figures and can develop  
traits like dishonesty,  
manipulation to avoid

② Normalizes culture of violence  
leads to acceptance of  
other forms of violence later  
in life eg: domestic violence

③ Confuses punishment as an  
expression of love and  
bonding

eg: ragging is seen as  
bonding between seniors  
and juniors

④ children are highly  
impressionable, they will  
embrace a value system



and perpetuate cycle of violence  
by passing down these values  
to their children

⑤ Violent punishment can  
lead to mental and  
psychological stress.

⑥ Students may avoid going  
to schools, affecting their  
learning, in order to  
avoid violence

"Violence, no matter how  
well intentioned, always  
rebounds upon oneself"



(b)

Alternative means of disciplining should be employed by both parents and teachers

① Using emotional intelligence to convey the unethical behavior of the student.

② make the child think for  
himself / herself

→ eg: ask them to write  
essay on why they are  
wrong

③ be good rolemodels

→ children learn through  
imitation so parents

teachers must practice  
what they preach

"Instruction does much,  
encouragement everything"

④ ~~Forg~~ Teach value of forgiveness  
and be patient to ensure  
that children have trust  
on authority figures



\* Disciplining should involve interaction with the community. For example: a child who disrespects elders should be asked to spend time in old age home

As Vivekananda said, education must make a person a good citizen. That is only possible when change is brought through heart, not force



Q13  
(a)

caste is engrained in Indian society and forms the basis of oppression and exclusion in the modern world. Govt has enacted acts like Civil liberties Act, Prevention of Atrocities act, 1989

but caste continue to be integral to personal (marriage, social circle etc) as well as institutional life (low representation of SCs & STs in higher bureaucracy)

\* Resilience of caste

\* Prejudices remain about supposed "purity" and "pollution" that manifest in practices like not sharing food

\* economic mobility has not meant social mobility for "lower castes"

→ reservation - affirmative action



has increased animosity against them.

\* Question of merit is not seen as a social construct that is enabled by social, cultural and financial resources

\* Many religious activities are tied to caste activities.

eg: before ceremony 'dalits' are asked to wash feet of Brahmins

\* Caste exists in urban areas in 'gentle ways' that are not obvious.

\* Caste has been part of Indian culture since 2000 years and is tied to religion and social practices. Laws are not enough, they need to be accompanied by attitude change



(b)

measures to prevent atrocities

legal measures

- \* hold police officers liable for not registering cases under POA, 1989
- term it 'dereliction of duty'
- \* provision for fast tracking and special courts for cases against SCs & STs. strict time limit of 2 yr
- \* Provision of legal aid to be strictly implemented under NALSA Act, so justice can be access
- \* law to provide monetary compensation for psychological stress and financial loss

administrative measures

- \* create culture of accountability
  - ↳ digital records of cases and constant monitoring
- \* create sensitisation among staff and understanding of power dynamics



\* human touch to  
administration by ensuring  
SOP in such cases and  
providing immediate support

\* interlinkages with citizen  
groups and NGOs, and  
~~the~~ NHRC & SHRC



Q14  
(a)

This is a situation that shows human compassion and negative behaviour produced by dehumanizing conditions of poverty.

② India as a land of disparity  
(10% hold 77% wealth)

the boy and the man come from different classes.

The generous behaviour of man is due to good nature but also a function of class that empowers him to help others.

② The boy is clearly poor, in illhealth and in need.

what he did was ethically wrong but his conditions of deprivation need to be considered too.

Social mobility through honest work is not promising. It takes 7 generations in India to



escape poverty (social  
mobility index  
- WEF)

- ③ The man beating the boy  
shows lack of empathy as  
well as righteous anger  
at dishonest act.

Issues of equity, distribution  
of wealth, pragmatism of  
morality are at stake.

What might be morally  
wrong might be economically  
beneficial and help cover  
basic needs. Difference between  
greed and want needs to  
be recognized



(b)

I will ask the men to stop beating the boy because violence is never the right answer.

\* I will explain to the men the need to empathize and understand the reasons for the action.

\* I will talk to the boy, gently and ask if he is studying as entitled under RTI Act, 2009.

I will tell him that education will enable him to earn

honest living and escape poverty

\* I will point to how such acts can get him into trouble with law and cannot be

a long term measure

\* I will give him some money, according to my budget.



I will act this way because  
empathy and compassion will  
enable a humane approach to  
poverty. It will make me  
acknowledge my own privilege  
and use it for society's  
benefit. I will employ  
Gandhi's talisman of  
sarvodaya