



# VISION IAS

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## GENERAL STUDIES (TEST CODE : 1502)

Name of Candidate	Samyak S Jain		
Medium Hindi/Eng.	English	Registration Number	861690
Center		Date	

INDEX TABLE			INSTRUCTIONS
Q. No.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained	<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Do furnish the appropriate details in the answer sheet (viz. Name, Registration Number and Test Code).</li><li>There are <b>TWELVE</b> questions printed in <b>ENGLISH</b></li><li><b>All questions are compulsory.</b></li><li>The number of marks carried by a question/part is indicated against it.</li><li>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.</li><li>Word limit in questions, if specified, should be adhered to.</li><li>Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.</li></ol>
1(a)	10		
1(b)	10		
2(a)	10		
2(b)	10		
3(a)	10		
3(b)	10		
4(a)	10		
4(b)	10		
5(a)	10		
5(b)	10		
6(a)	10		
6(b)	10		
6(c)	10		
7	20		
8	20		
9	20		
10	20		
11	20		
12	20		
Total Marks Obtained:			
Remarks:			
Signature of Examiner			

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## 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**

Test No - 1502

Registration No - 861690.

Ans 1A. As any society progresses and modernizes itself, it is often said that the society is losing its values and morals.

The basic crisis is between:

- Traditional vs modern values
- Religious vs scientific values
- Joint family vs nuclear family values
- Vegetarian vs non-vegetarian values

Nevertheless, it cannot be said that modern societies lack values at all. Their set of values is different from earlier societies like:

- More value for individualism over collectivism.
- Increased scientific temperament.
- New set of moral standards brought in by modern western education.

For example, a traditional society is more likely to stress upon dowry during marriage while a modern society might overlook such old practices.

Therefore, it cannot be said that there is a complete crisis of values, they only differ in their nature.

Ans 13. The role of society is important during the socialization of a child as it imparts foundational and basic values in her.  
It is done through:

Family :

- Provides the first set of values at home.
- Values like table manners, respect for elders etc.



### School:

- Formal training in set of values.
- Values like sharing, equality, obedience, team work etc.

### Religion and community:

- The final layer of socialization.
- Values like the basic principles of all religions like worshipping, love, benevolence, charity etc.
- Feelings of belongingness to ones community important for self respect and community ownership and leadership.

I have acquired the value of brevity i.e. not being afraid of my fears from my family and schooling. It has helped me in taking big and bold decisions in life finally culminating in greater success and happiness in my endeavours.

Ans 2A. A public servant has to take several decisions in the course of his duty everyday. His ethics and principles guide him in resolving any dilemmas which arise.

Problems with dichotomy between Personal and Public ethics:

- Brings a certain sense of plasticity in his duty.
- Drives in hypocrisy in his public and personal life. He lives two different lives simultaneously.
- Hinders his 100% dedication to his service. For ex: a person who practices caste discrimination in his personal life cannot completely drive it away in public life.
- Affects the quality of work done. An officer corrupt in personal life is also more likely to be corrupt in public life.



Coherence in ethics leads to:

- Higher job satisfaction
- Faster decision making
- Improved quality of work

Therefore, it is important to remove any dichotomies that may prevail in the personal and public life ethics of an officer.

Q2B. Transparency in administration refers to the practice of openness followed in procedures and decision making.

Features:

- Clear laying down of procedures and adherence to them.
- Citizen's charter
- Induction of moral standards in employees through workshops.
- Clear communication to employees and customers.

## Benefits :

- Removes scope of any type of corruption hence a bulwark against corruption.
- Increases general trust in people which an organisation seeks to serve.
- Increases the pride in the employees of the organisation about the clear working of their organisation.
- Acts like a role model for other organisations.

Even the 2<sup>nd</sup> ARC has laid special stress upon bringing in transparency in administration and called it the key to good governance.



Ans 3A. Morality can be defined as a set of principles that one holds near to herself and use to make rational decisions. They are highly subjective in nature.

Not divine principles neither Universal as:

- They change in nature from community to community. Ex: marriage with in the same family is considered normal in Islam and parsees.
- Even within the same community they are temporal and change with time. Ex: child marriage was considered normal either but now it is immoral.
- They cannot be universalized as they are highly subjective and can even change from situation to situation. Ex: lying is immoral but lying in order to save someone's life is moral.
- Promote cooperation between communities as they help identify moral beings from immoral ones for proper functioning of society.



Hence, morality can be understood to be as a convenience developed by humans for mutual cooperation and to avoid conflicts.

Ans 3B. Mahavira in his teachings of Jainism gave the concept of right conduct along with right faith and right knowledge to obtain happiness in life.

Features of right conduct:

- Following non-violence and adopting a perspective of benevolence towards other living beings.
- Abstaining from excesses of life and luxury.
- Concept of apigraha i.e. abstaining from collecting any property or attaching oneself overly with immortal things.

### Benefits:

- Breeds positivity in life and hence happiness.
- Saves oneself from unnecessary pain of loss of material things.
- Provides good Karma as one does not harm anyone else physically, verbally and even mentally.

Several great scholars including Mahatma Gandhi have followed several of these principles and have shown the world the true meaning of happiness and content.

Ans 4A: There is generally a high level of expectation from civil servants with respect to their conduct while in public duty.

Some of these are:

- Transparency and accountability: she must be responsible for acts done by her in line of duty and adopt a transparent procedure for higher trust.
- Integrity and honesty: personal conduct of civil servant must be above suspicion of her juniors and peers.
- Leadership: civil servant must lead from the front with full confidence.
- Empathy and compassion: must towards weaker sections.
- Attitude and aptitude: must carry a positive attitude and the necessary aptitude for the job.
- Sevottam model: civil servant must look at the sevottam model as the guiding principle in her public life.



- Gandhi's Talisman: It may come in handy while taking policy decisions.

Along with all these, a civil servant must lead by example and act as a role model for others.

Ans 4B. There are several differences between ethical dilemmas faced by government and private institutions.

Government institutions:

- Face challenges of inclusion of all sections of society.
- Face procedural challenges while implementing schemes.

Private Institutions:

- Face challenges in expanding their customer base which need not be inclusive.

- Face environmental ethical dilemmas, corporate malpractices, misleading advertising, employee's exploitation etc.

### Reasons:

- Government is bound by social contract hence responsible to people while company responsible to only its stakeholders.
- Development of all sections is governments key agenda while higher profits is key driving force behind company.
- Level of responsibility in government is generally higher than as compared to private companies.

Although, the types of ethical dilemmas differ in government and private sector but their resolution is important for future growth of respective organisation.



Aussa. Reparations for historical injustices although cannot undo the wrong but still provide an ethical and moral means because of the following reasons:

- Provide an acknowledgment by the aggressor for his wrong doings: what cannot be undone must at least be acknowledged and owned.
- Provides a sense of mental closure in the community and helps in faster healing of its wounds.
- Becomes a cautionary tale for others in the future to deter from similar actions.
- Financial reparations might help the community to tide over poverty better.
- Breeds better equality and respect for all in the international community.  
Strengthens the idea of Vasudev Kautumbharam.

Reparations have thus, been a key means adopted especially by colonial powers to tide over their wrong doings.

Ans 5B : Integrity pacts is a tool developed by Transparency International in order to curb corruption in public procurement and to bring in transparency.

### Features :

- These are pacts signed by both the contracting parties to have followed a set of principles and to abide by certain standards for service delivery.

### Utility :

- Curbs corruption and helps India improve its rank in Transparency International's corruption perception index.
- History of scandals in many procurements especially in defence, telecom etc.
- Failure of existing anti-corruption measures to curb corruption.

IP has been included in more than 32 PSUs from sectors like defence, telecom, oil and natural gas, airports etc.

Its utility, importance and impact can be gauged from the fact that more than 96% of companies have said that IP has made procedures more transparent and corruption free.

Ans 6A. Thoughts are the most powerful tool available to mankind. As Buddha rightly said that we become what we think.

Positive thoughts brings in positivity in life and help spread joy and happiness around.

They create better work environments and also nurture healthy relationships in personal life.

Similarly, negative thoughts attracts negativity and breed an environment of hopelessness and despair. One must avoid these thoughts at all costs.

Thoughts give rise to ideas and it is well known that ideas are bullet proof.

They cannot be killed and they have the potential to spread wide and far.

A civil servant must inspire positivity in her peers. She must always think positive and good thoughts that not only motivate her but also people around her.



Aus6B. The above statement throws light upon the consequences of action and inaction. It is truly said that it is our actions that make us virtuous or vicious.

This point has been well elaborated in the Hindu philosophy of karma. The 'Gita' talks about the consequences of our actions and inspires one to do nishkarm karma or fruitless action. Thus, it advocates to follow a deontological approach towards life.

While one must not think about its fruits while performing an action, it is generally known that good actions bring virtues while all actions bring vices.

It is also to be noted that Gita also considers not doing any action or inaction to be an action in itself which will have its own consequences.

Thus, although the lines have been said by Aristotle, they resonate heavily in the Indian context.

Ans 6c. The above lines throw light upon Rawl's philosophy on justice.

Rawl talks about three pillars of Justice.

1. liberty
2. Equality
3. Difference principle

According to him equality is one of the important principles to be kept in mind while delivering justice along with positive affirmation.

The Indian Constitution in Article 14-18 talks about right to equality. It provides everyone with equal protection of law whilst acknowledging the historical injustices and hence providing for positive affirmation so that inequalities already present may be removed.

In my opinion as well, it is important that equality should prevail but as Aristotle said it is unjust to treat equals as unequals.  
just as it is unjust to treat unequals as equals.

Therefore, a balance between equality and equity must be made.



Ans 7: Facts of the case:

- Low literacy and high poverty in district.
- Mass vaccination against Covid-19.
- Vested interest groups spreading rumors and misleading information about it.
- Newspapers reports about insufficient trials of the vaccine before being approved.

Various Issues in the case:

- Group doing vs Vested interests may lead to poor vaccination resulting in another wave of virus in the district.
- Difficult to convince people for taking vaccine because of their backward nature.
- Doubts about the vaccine efficacy also a factor.

B. Steps that I will take:

1. Start an awareness campaign about the vaccine and its benefits. If possible I will rope in local celebrities and community leaders / influential people for better persuasion of people.

2. Will lead by example and demonstrate that the vaccine is safe and effective by taking it myself.
3. Confront the vested interest groups and persuade them not to adopt such tactics. Will hear their grievances and provide a solution if possible. Otherwise, take strict legal action against them for spreading rumours.
4. Publish scientific data and quotes by various Scientists in newspapers that depict the efficacy and safety of vaccine thus increasing its acceptability in the public.
5. Incentivize vaccination by attaching some material benefit along with it. Also make it more accessible for public by opening more centres in each locality and door to door campaigns.

In this way I will tackle the above problem

### Ans 8A. Facts of the Case :

- Fire at the company leading to casualties.
- An employee who later becomes witness says the company took all the precautions in the beginning.
- Later he back tracks and says that he was lying earlier.

### Ethical Dilemmas :

- My duty towards the company in confrontation with my duty towards the society and the people who died.
- Justice for company Vs justice for employees.
- Issue of trust over the employee's statement as he looks unreliable.

### B.

1. Will ask the employee to give correct statement in court as he fits fine. It is important that the court comes to know all the sides of the matter before deciding anything.



2. Along with this, I will also provide my statement to the court declaring the earlier statement of the employee and the charged one. I will allow the court to take the right decision by looking at the matter wholistically. I will leave it on the court to determine the validity of the employee's statement.

3. I will also bring the matter to the notice of my superiors in the company so that they can also take a relook upon the employee and decide upon his trust worthiness.

4. I will also initiate steps within the company to take a relook at its safety precautions so that a similar incident does not occur in the future.

At the end, I trust the courts and the procedure they adopt for providing justice to the company and its lost employees.

Ans. Although racism is not considered to be that big a problem in India, hate crimes against racial minorities is common.

### Ethical Issues:

- Differentiate between people based upon their skin colour. Violates right to equality of people.
- Promotes one skin type over the other.
- Often leads to low self confidence and low self esteem amongst dark-skinned people.
- Often leads to higher demands for dowry in case of dark skinned girls.
- Creates internal divides within the country and affects national unity.  
Promotes regionalism.

### 3. Suggestions for Combating such crimes:

1. Ban the sale and marketing of fairness cream
2. Education at the school level about different cultures in India and their diversity.
3. Start awareness campaigns about racial hatred and persuade people not to do so. Involve



Celebrities from racial minorities like  
Rajnikant, Jawala Latta, Baichang Bhutia,  
Smit Chetri etc. do spread the message.

4. Adoption of stricter laws and their proper  
implementation for curbing crimes against  
such people. Increasing the provisions for  
fines and imprisonment of such people.
5. Adoption of a zero tolerance policy against  
such crimes.

With all these steps, hate crimes against racial  
minorities can be tackled.

### Ans 10. Facts of the case:

- Company manufactures electronics and has a good reputation amongst its customers.
- NH0 report suggests flouting of labour norms and exploitation.
- Environmental norms also flouted by it.

### Ethical Issues :

- Dignity of human beings and labours.
- Improper remuneration and exploitation.
- Damage to environment.
- Lack of accountability as it is a large MNC with money power and sub licensing of the production lines to other companies.

A).

Yes, the company should be held responsible for its malpractices. It is the company which ultimately decides its sub licensees and has the power to change them.

A company apart from making profits also has other responsibilities. It should follow

the triple bottom line principle of PPP i.e.  
Profits, People and Planet. In this way it can  
adopt proper work ethics and become socially  
and environmentally responsible.

Recently, in a similar case, some big companies  
like Nike and Apple took steps of their  
down stream production lines and  
changed their contractors when similar  
reports surfaced.

B).

Ethical customers are also expected to take  
notice of the practices followed by their  
preferred brands. It is their moral responsibility.

For this it is required that there must be  
complete awareness about the functioning of  
companies by their customers. Many companies  
have started publicizing their work ethics and  
the green deeds done by them every year.

Thus, only a wholistic approach can help  
change the situation.



Ans 11. Betting has increasingly become common habit in India. It is true that today it is multi-billion dollar industry.

A)

Betting is immoral and unethical to its very core. It favours the dependence upon one's luck more than upon hard work. This can be dangerous for the society as it may make people more lazy.

It promotes unethical means in sports like match fixing etc. it not only kills the spirit of sports but also cheats the audience to an extent. Also it kills true talent and skill in sports.

Although legalizing it would bring in much needed money to the government but money earned through unethical means is corrupt and immoral in itself. One should remember Gandhi's word in such cases that means should always justify the ends. Immoral means would only lead to immoral ends.

If today such things are legalized by such arguments, then tomorrow demand will arise to legalise other things like hard drugs, prostitution etc. the broken window syndrome will apply here.

B) Merits of argument in opposition to my stance:

- betting is anyway happening. legalising it would bring in money to govt while at the same time might regularise betting in order to curb malpractices like match fixing.

Will provide employment to people in this new industry.

Money earned through tax revenues can be spent upon betterment of sport facilities etc

Ans 12. Facts of the case:

- Introduction to new legislations.
- large scale protests by farmers and trade unions.
- Involvement of vested interests to mislead public.
- Division of opinion amongst the experts.

A). The various stakeholders in this issue are:

1. The government of India.
2. ~~Farmers~~ Farmers and Trade Unions
3. General public as they are the ones getting affected by the protests

Ans B). Ethical Concerns:

- Interests of vested groups vs the larger interests of farmers and traders.
- Upsetting the farmers may lead to loss of face by govt and lead to trust issues in public.



- Misled farmers may derail the much needed reforms that will harm them in the long run.

I will tackle the situation in the following way:

- Expose the vested interest groups and take strict action against them.
- Run an awareness campaign in the farming community educating them about the benefits of the legislations. Involve local communities and celebrities in this pursuit.
- Continue with the negotiations with farmer groups and accept their only genuine demands for amendments.
- Allow with the peaceful protests as long as they can while cutting off their means for publicity.

Go ahead with the reforms and implement  
them in the rest of the country so that  
even the protesting farmers can look  
at the real time benefits of the bills.