



APSC Mains 2023 TS - 11 (GS Paper 4)

Duration – 3 Hrs

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(Please fill your details correctly)

Medium:

English ☒

Assamese ☐

INDEX NUMBER			INSTRUCTIONS
Q.NO.	Maximum Marks	Marks Obtained.	Please read each of the following instruction carefully before attempting the questions: - There are NINETEENTH 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. - The answers must not exceed 150 words for 10 marks and 250 words for 20 marks. - Content is more important than the number of words. - Answers must be written in the medium authorised 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 authorised one. - Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.
Section A			
1	10		
2	10		
3	10		
4	10		
5	10		
6	10		
7	10		
8	10		
9	10		
10	10		
11	10		
12	10		
13	10		
Section B			Remarks: Signature of the Student: <i>Antu Bordoloi</i>
14	20		
15	20		
16	20		
17	20		
18	20		
19	20		
TOTAL	250		



Brief report of Performance Evaluation of student in the paper

	Poor	Average	Good	Very good	Excellent
Understanding the context and demand of the questions					
Relevancy of the content					
Structure and flow of the answer					
(a) Introduction					
(b) Body					
(c) Conclusion					
Subject knowledge					
Language of the answer					
Presentation					
(a) Underline to the keywords					
(b) Use of flowcharts or diagrams					
(c) Paragraph limits and overall					
Understanding of directives					
Factual correctness					
Overall performance					

Detail Feedback

SECTION A

Q1. What are the significant values in the society of Assam? (10 marks/150 words)

Ans:- According to Milton Roekach "a value is an enduring belief - a specific mode of conduct or end state of existence that is personally or socially preferable". (e.g) Honesty is a value.

The society of Assam is a culturally rich and diverse which has been possible of the social cohesion and values since time immemorial.

Significant values in the society of Assam

① Dignity of women - The dignity of women is highly preferred - which has been evident through Law incidents of Patriarchy, Dowry

(e.g) Ambarachi is celebrated at Maa Kamakhya Temple - respecting the menstrual cycle.

② Tolerance and Assimilation - The society with highest number of tribes and communities like Bodo, Mising is possible as they adhere to tolerance and cultural assimilation.

- ③ Adherence to societal norms - The society of Assam still values the adherence to societal norms - like respecting elders, treating the younger ones with dignity, etc.
- ④ Tied to the Cultural Roots - (eg) People of Assam (Diaspora) in other countries celebrating Bihu etc show how the adherence of the cultural roots in the era of globalisation.
- ⑤ Honesty, Trustworthy - An account of history - where Chinese traveller - Hsien Tsang (543-54AD) stated that the people of Kamarupa are honesty and trustworthy - which is prevalent till date with exceptional few.
- ⑥ Dignity of Labour - In tot. of society especially in rural areas are engaged in agriculture - the dignity of labour is adhered and respected.

Thus, the society of Assam is progressive as compared to other regions of the country. However, certain unscrupulous elements have time to time deviated/tried to deviate the values. which can be corrected through attitudinal change.

Q2. Aptitude reflects what you are capable of doing. Motivation determines what you do. Attitude determines how well you do it. Comment. (10 marks/150 words)

Ans:- Aptitude refers to the innate ability of an individual to do something or acquiring a skill.

(e.g) One having high aptitude of spatial intelligence can opt 'cricket' as a career option

Motivation refers to the external stimulus for an individual that helps to do a task/acquire a skill more efficiently. (e.g) Seeing the works of civil servants → motivates for UPSC

Attitude
→ It refers to as the positive, negative or ambivalent orientation towards a psychological object that may or may not be manifested in behaviour.
(e.g) Positive attitude for acquiring/practising dance

Connectedness of Aptitude-Motivation-Attitude



Aptitude depends on one's inherent capability and hence one needs to identify it for realising full potential.

↓ (e.g) Sachin Tendulkar
identify Batting

Upon realisation of one's aptitude - motivation
can help produce the encouragement to pursue and enhance the aptitude

↓ (e.g) He practised and developed skill

Attitude - A positive attitude person will perform training and develop the skill

↓ (e.g) He is "masterblaster"

At last, it may turn into success and if not then positive attitude person will try it again.

Thus, all the three components play a significant role in one's development.

Q3. Differentiate between the following: (10 marks/200 words)

- Hatred and indifference
- Envy and jealousy
- Conscious, Subconscious and Unconsciousness actions

Ans(a) :- Hatred and Indifference

① It promotes <u>intolerance</u> .	① It generally <u>do not</u> <u>promote intolerance</u>
② It has <u>negative consequences</u> - like <u>vidence</u> , <u>communalism</u> , <u>regionalism</u>	② It promotes <u>healthy</u> <u>discussions</u> - <u>respecting</u> the other person's <u>viewpoint</u>
③ e.g:- <u>Russia-Ukraine's hatredness</u> led to war	③ e.g:- Mahatma Gandhiji and Dr. Ambedkar had <u>differences</u> . not <u>hatred</u> .

Ans(b) :- Envy and Jealousy

① It implies <u>positive connotation</u>	① It implies <u>negative connotation</u>
② One <u>tries to reach</u> the level of others.	② One <u>tries to pull</u> other's <u>down</u> here.

③ (e.g.) X and Y are friends -
X is sharing envy towards Y who and hence X promises to reach like Y.

(e.g.) :- X and Y are friends
X is jealous of Y's achievements and tries to mock Y in public

Ans c:- Conscious, Subconscious, Unconsciousness

Conscious → one is aware of what he/she is doing or going to do.
(e.g.) :- A boy (A) is studying hard for his board exam.

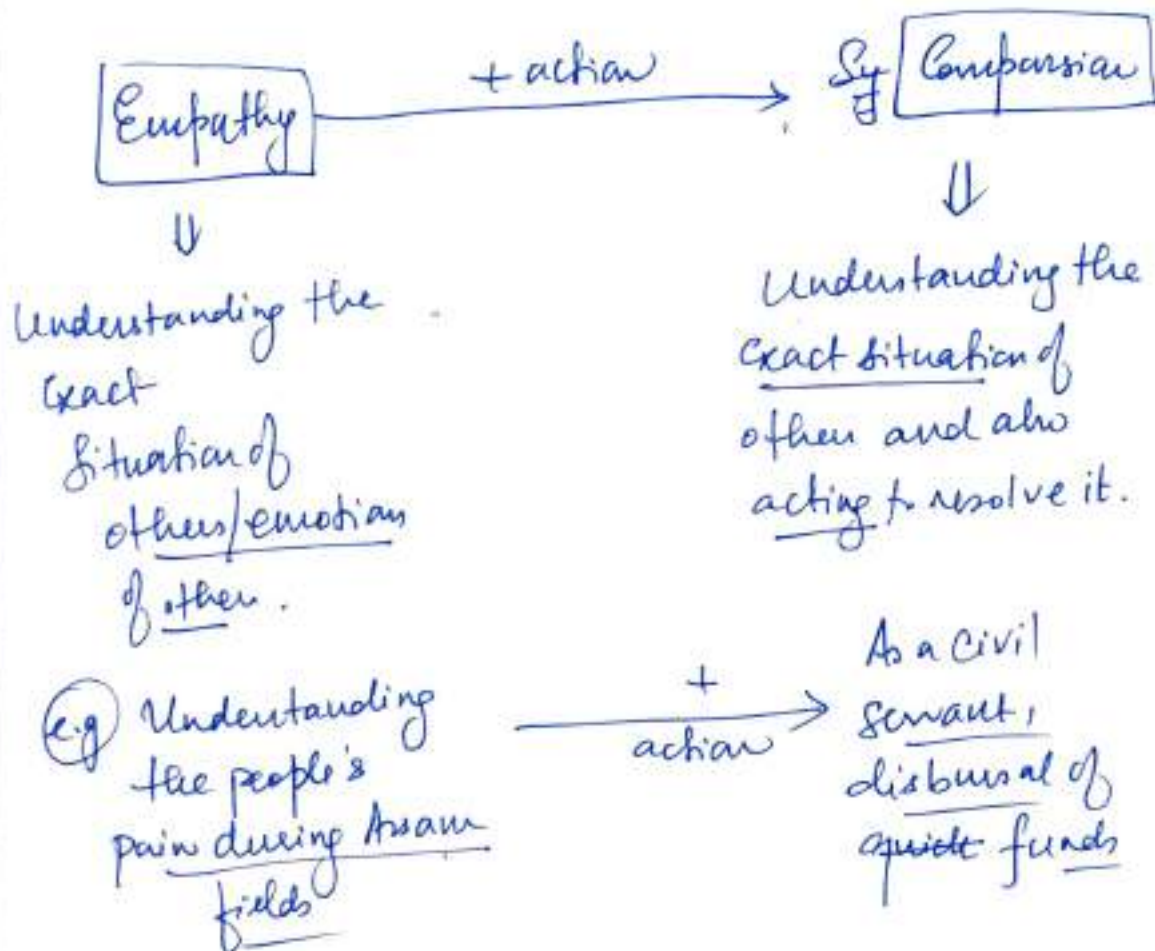
Subconscious → one is aware of the thing but it is not into action.
(e.g.) A girl (B) wants to eat fast food but not going now.

Unconsciousness → one is not aware as well as no action is taking place.
(e.g.) → generally unethical in nature.

Q4. "True knowledge exists in knowing that you know nothing." (150 words/10 marks)

Q5. Apart from intellectual competence and moral qualities like empathy and compassion are some of the other vital attributes that facilitate the civil servants to be more competent in tackling the crucial issues or taking critical decisions. Explain with suitable illustrations. (10 marks/150 words)

Ans:- Moral qualities like Empathy and Compassion are crucial for civil servants as it promotes the decision making power ~~it~~ as well as handling the crucial issues.



How empathy and compassion helps in tackling the crucial issues or taking critical decisions?

② Critical

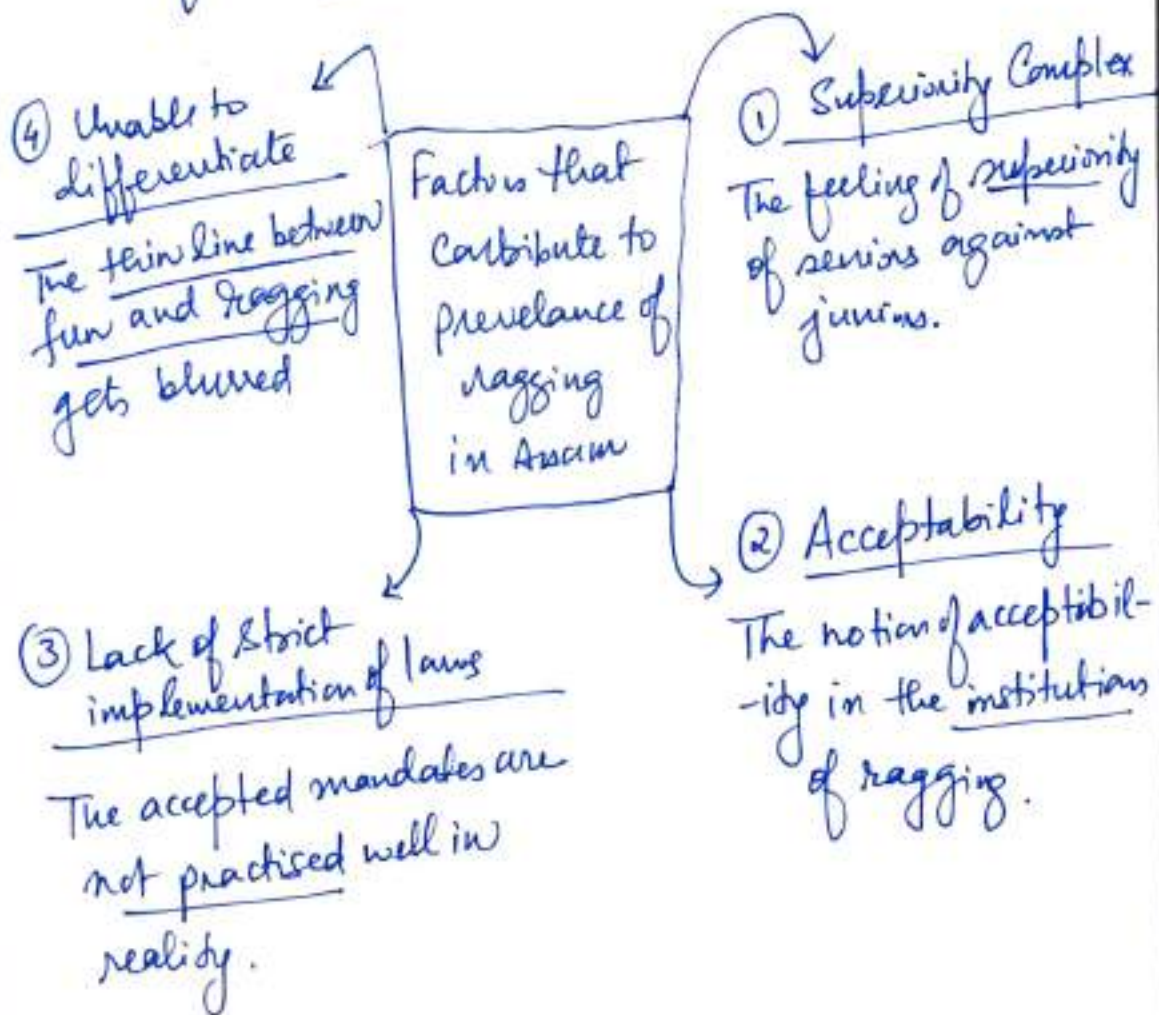
- ① It avoids colonial touch which promotes subordination of people rather than their amelioration.
- ② It helps in considering the affected marginalised sections [women, children etc]
- ③ It helps in proper implementation of Threshold Deontology rather than Weberian Demo Model of bureaucracy
- ④ It promotes dedication to public services — a core foundational value

Thus, apart from intellectual competence — ~~now~~ compassion and empathy is significant.

Q6. What are the factors that contribute to the prevalence of ragging in Assam? How can universities and colleges in Assam respond to incidents of ragging? (10 marks 150 words)

Ans:- Ragging refers to the abuse - both physically and mentally of the new entrants (juniors) by their seniors especially in institutions.

e.g. A boy of Assam in 2022 - had to jump from a building in order to save himself in his life following a ragging incident.



Approaches of Universities and Colleges in Assam in response to incidents of ragging

① Stricter implementation of acts/guidelines - which will act as deterrence against ragging.

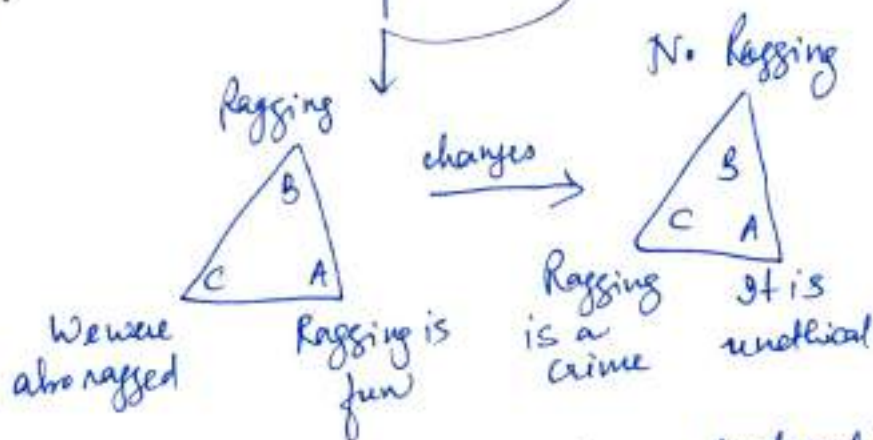
② Change of Attitude

operant Conditioning

Punishment for the offenders.

(CAB)
Cognitive-Affective-Behavior

Attacking the cognition part to change behaviour



③ Support the victims through faster grievance redressal and necessary precautions.

Thus, Such incidents can be mitigated with prompt response of authorities & students.

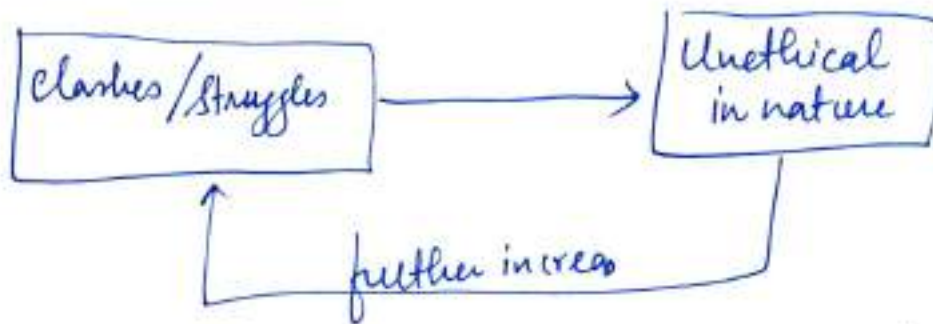
Q7. "Assam is facing ethnic struggles and clashes which are between the ethnic groups of Bodo and Adivasi, Bodo and Muslims, Karbi and Kuki, Karbi and Dimas e.t.c claimed more than thousands of lives, and lakhs of people got displaced". In the above Context explain the Ethical issues which causes such Struggle. (150 words/10 marks)

Ans- Assam - a culturally rich region and diverse, Still it faces ethnic struggles and clashes which have even claimed lives, etc.

Ethical Issues which causes such struggle

- ① Intolerance instead of Tolerance → It gets aggravated considering the ethnic / class difference.
- ② Extended Son of Soil Concept → Extended approaches as such handing unity.
- ③ Narrow understanding → Due to the modern ideas and globalisation — mere narrow and hedonist concepts of materialization persists.
- ④ Personal interests over other → The modern Society of Rights based approach whereby the

Rights are more important than other interests
stimulates struggles/clashes.



It follows a vicious cycle of clashes and struggles
amongst the ethnic groups, etc.

However it can be solved through
peaceful negotiation rather than as Teological
objective of ends > means.

Q8. "If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion". (10 Marks/150 words)

Ans:- Compassion is the ability to understand the emotions of others (sympathy) and also to act for it (action).

Compassion → Sympathy + Action

(e.g) A Civil Servant helping the people in flood by quick disbursement of funds.

If you want others to be happy, practice compassion

Compassion makes others happy as -

① It tries to mitigate or reduce the shortcomings

② It promotes justice approach

③ Prevents ethical cloud especially in administration

If you want to be happy, practice Compassion

Compassion also makes one happy -

- ① Promotes ethical conduct
- ② Not against conscience
- ③ In accordance with Deontology a Threshold Deontology

Thus, Compassion - promotes a dual role as stated above.

Q9. Transparency is a crucial concept in maintaining ethical governance machinery. (10 marks/150 words)

Ans:- According to the 10th report of 2nd ARC - Transparency is one of the core foundational values of a civil servant and in public administration.

Transparency refers to the openness of the procedures, decision making etc in the public administration which further promotes ethical governance i.e., governance in adherence to the ethical principles



Why Transparency is a crucial concept for ethical governance?

- ① Prevents Ethical Cloud - It promotes ethical cloud of public and promotes public trust.
- ② Efficient governance - It has a free government system with maximum governance is practised.

- ③ Accountability - It promotes accountability of the executives - regarding progress in work.
- ④ Participative Democracy - Transparency will help in making democracy participative - whereby citizen feedback/grievances may well be addressed.
- ⑤ Prevents Corruption - Corruption will be prevented which serves the basis for ethical governance.

Case Study - Mission Sadhbhavana - clearing of files at Janak Bhawan by the govt show cases transparency as public could track the progress of the files in digitized manner

Thus, transparency is a crucial component for ethical governance machinery.

Q10. Life doesn't make any sense without interdependence. We need each other, and the sooner we learn that, it is better for us all." – Erik Erikson (10 marks/150 marks)

Q11. "If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, I strongly feel there are three key societal members who can make a difference. They are the father, the mother and the teacher." - Abdul Kalam (10 marks/150 words)

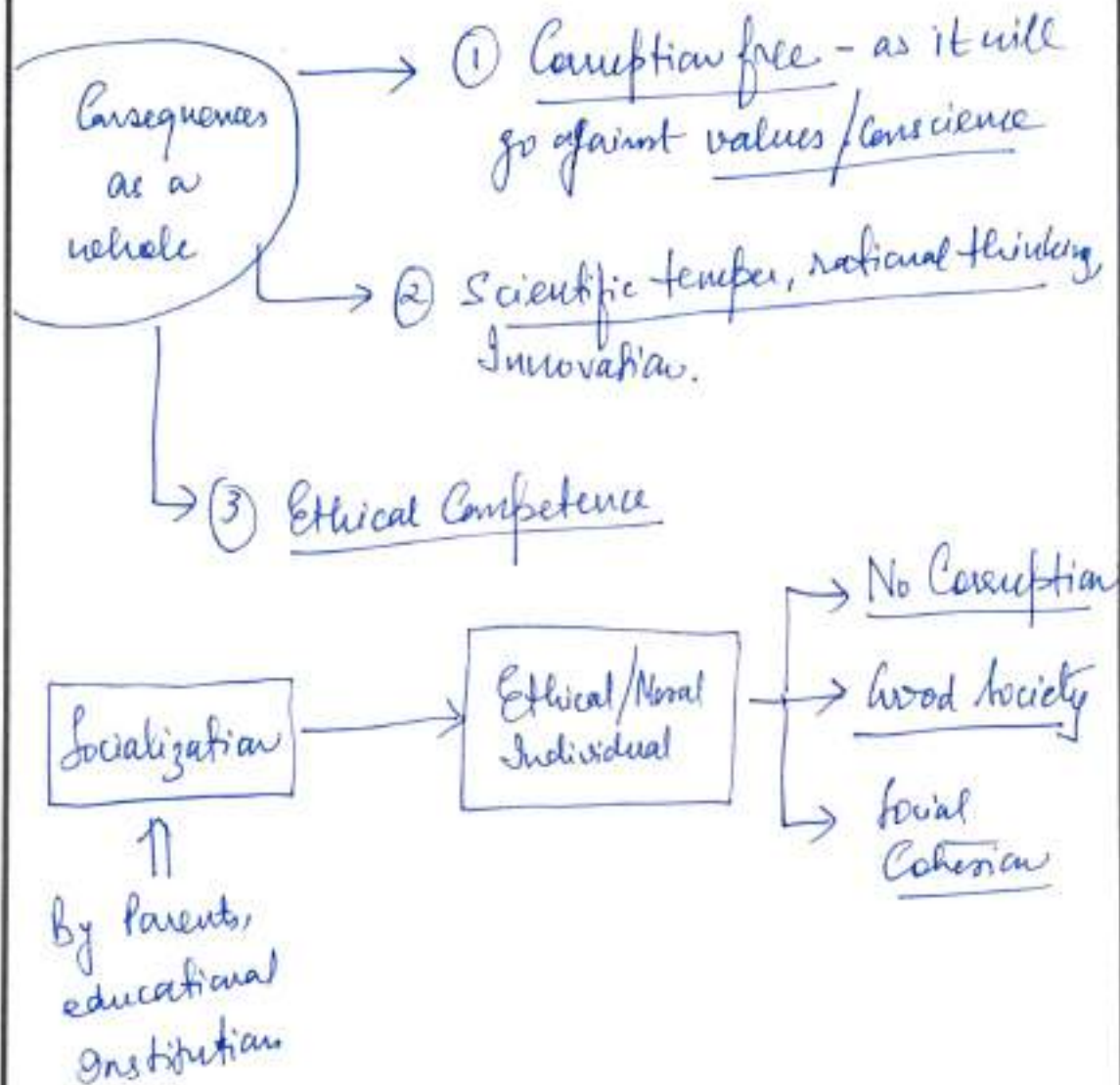
Ans:- According to World Bank - Corruption is the use of public office for private gain. Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam emphasized the removal/elimination of corruption from the nation - through the socialization process of everyone.

Process of socialization - father, mother, teacher

① Parents - Mother is said to be first teacher and family is the first agent of socialization. Inculcation of values like honesty, tolerance, love, compassion which have become the universal values have been inculcated through this process.

② Teacher - Teachers and educational institution serving as 2nd degree of socialization especially upto K-16 yrs helps for complete development of individual. Right to Education Act, 2009 / A-21-A is a step towards it.

Thus, the role of nurture has also been emphasized by the former President of India.



Thus, the role of parents (father, mother) and teachers are significant for a developing society.

Q12. Persuasion is often more effective than force. Elucidate. (10 marks/150 words)

Ans:- Persuasion refers to the influence of the other sections through a positive orientation without any idea of deception or manipulation.

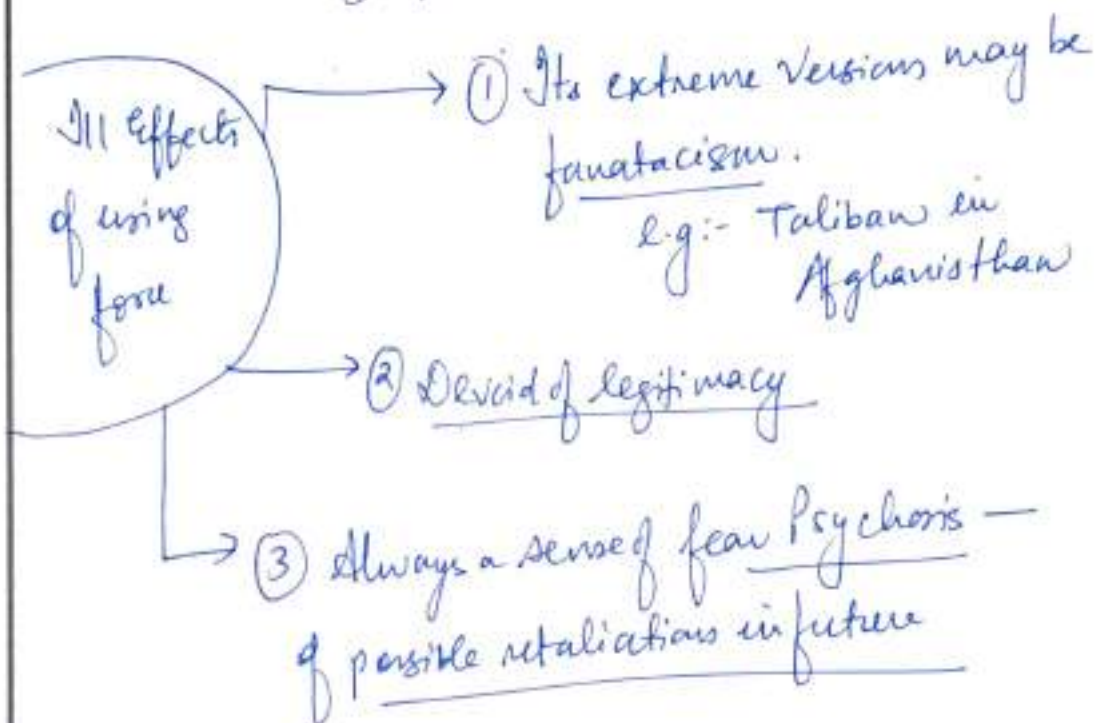
e.g. ECI's persuasion → to participate in Elections

However, there are instances where use of force is used/utilized in the name of persuasion.

How Persuasion is often more effective than force?

- ① No Crisis of Conscience - As Persuasion deals in a positive orientation - it avoids the crisis of conscience.
- ② Avoid Law and Order Issues - It avoids law and order issues. e.g. A Civil Servant handling the riots peacefully through attitudinal change models.
- ③ Effective Communication - Persuasion helps in effectively communicating the issues to the public.

- ④ Adherence to the Ethic fabric of society - Do not violate the Categorical imperative of Kant - "Human beings should be ends in themselves & not a means to some ends". through persuasion.



Thus, Persuasion is more effective than fear and serves as a purpose for long term acceptance and adherence.

Q13. Mention different types of Ethical dilemmas faced by civil servants in discharge of their duty. (10 marks/150 words)

Ans:- Ethical dilemmas refers to the dilemmas against tough situations whereby a more suitable (more right or less wrong) needs to be chosen.

Civil servants - although adheres to the foundational values still faces ethical dilemmas while discharging duties.

Ethical dilemmas of civil servants

① Objectivity v. Compassion - Here one's needs to choose between objectivity (rules based order) and compassion. (empathy + action).

eg - A poor woman having no documents but eligible for NFSA Act, 2013

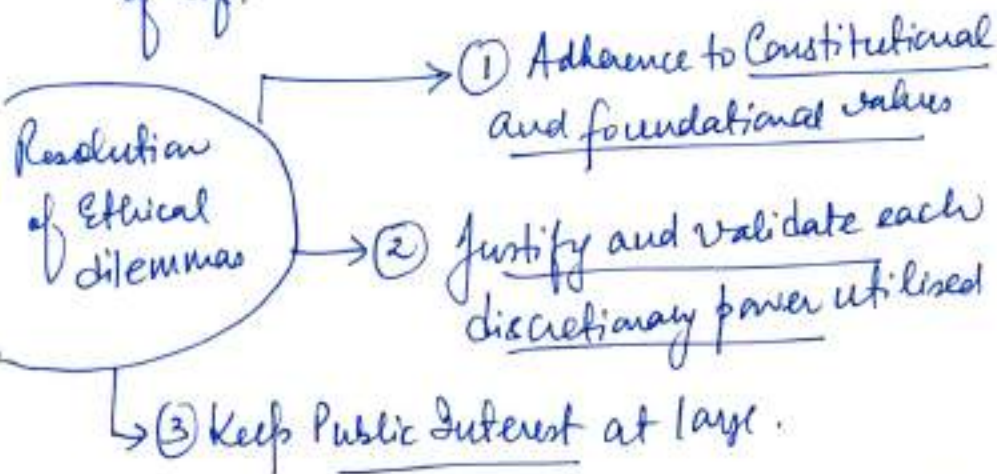
② Transparency v. Security/Confidentiality - As the civil servants adhere to transparency - but ethical dilemma arose where divulging details may hamper security of region/state

③ Order from political executives. v. Crisis of Conscience

→ here the order from political executives may be different from the moral compass/ethical ideals of the civil servants.

④ Efficiency v. Nepotism - You/Civil Servant being in a place where an efficient individual who happens to be known person needs to be selected against the nepotism

⑤ Personal life v. Public life - There may be situations where one needs to face - between both aspects of life.



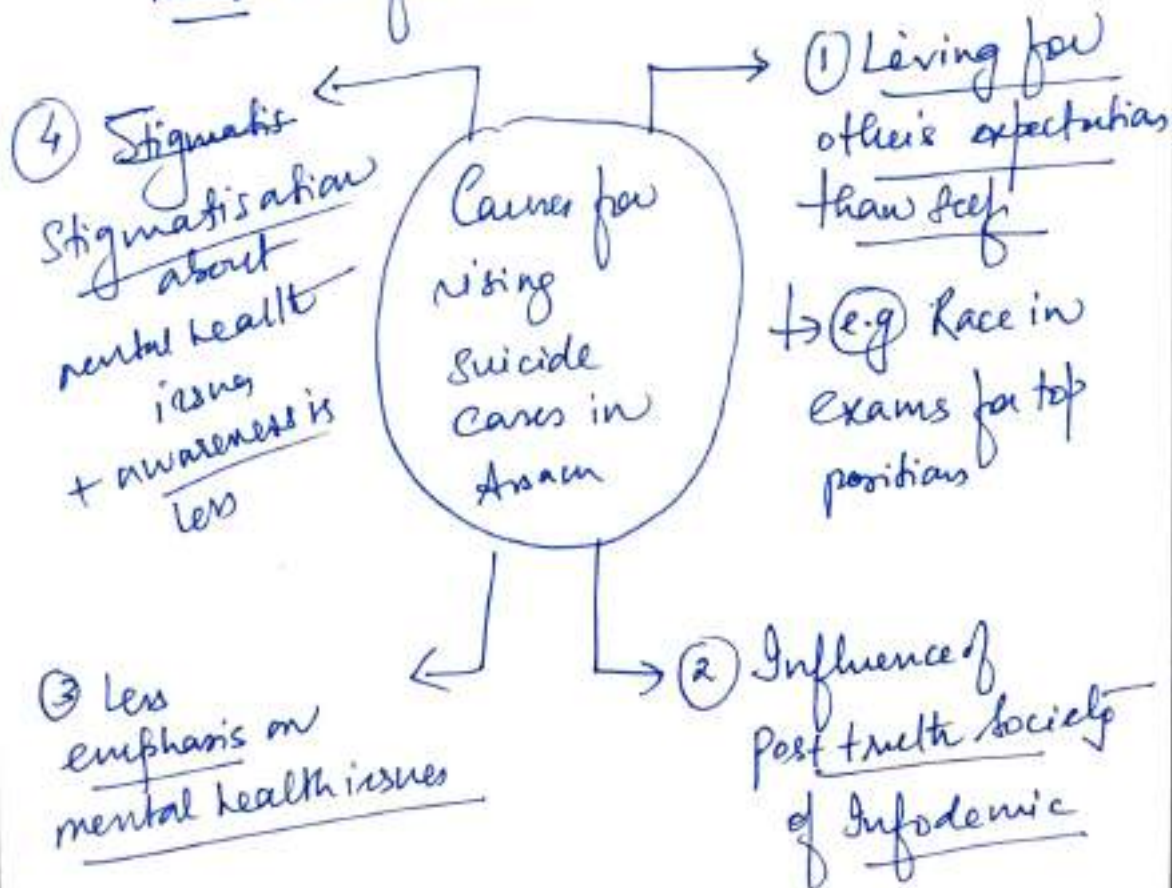
Then, the above situation shows the ethical dilemmas of public/civil servant.

Section B-Case studies

Q14. Sagar, a 25-year-old youth with a very pleasing personality, had made a choice to leave this world. He was very understanding towards his colleagues too. He used to encourage others and help his friends and colleagues by listening to them and suggesting amicable solutions to their problems. Apparently, he didn't have financial problems or any other issues like relationship problem, break-up, depression, etc. So, the question, 'Why did he choose to leave?' was disturbing all his near and dear ones. Numerous assumptions were made, some blaming themselves for not understanding his mental condition, and others for not getting the chance to know him better. Well, the problem is, we human beings are similar to tip of icebergs. In Sagar's case also, what everyone saw was just the small accessible part of his conscious functioning or the tip of the iceberg which is barely anything compared to what lies beneath or the larger domain of his unconscious psychological functioning which was completely unknown. However, the reason for Sagar's choice is gone with him, but he left behind a lesson that life is unpredictable.

Highlight the Causes of rising suicide cases in Assam. Suggest some measures which can lead to the reduction of suicide cases in Assam. (20 marks/300 words)

Ans:- The above case study refers to the growing incidents of suicides due to the mental health issues and for other varied reasons.



Some Measures which can lead to the reduction of
Suicide cases in Ansane

- ① Suicide Prevention Strategy at National level
→ already in discussion.
- ② Union Budget 2023-24
→ Tele Consultation 24x7
- ③ Adoption of curriculum related to mental health -
healthy discussions among peers
- ④ Effective implementation of Mental health policy 2017
- ⑤ changing attitudes of people - regarding
mental health issues.

Thus, such incidents can
be tackled/prevented.

Q15. In the small village of Lakhimpur, located in the northern part of Assam, a group of people had gathered in the central square to protest against illegal migration from neighboring Bangladesh. The village, which was once a peaceful and harmonious community, had been increasingly divided along ethnic and religious lines due to the influx of migrants.

The protesters were angry and frustrated, citing incidents of violence, theft, and encroachment of land by the migrants. They demand action from the government to stem the tide of illegal migration and protect the rights of the local community.

However, the situation took a violent turn when a group of migrants, who had been living in the village for several years, decided to confront the protesters. They argued that they had been living in the village peacefully and contributing to the local economy, and that they should not be unfairly targeted and discriminated against.

The confrontation quickly escalated into a physical altercation, with both sides throwing stones and sticks at each other. Several people were injured and taken to the hospital.

The incident sparked a debate across Assam about the issue of illegal migration, and the need for a more comprehensive and humane approach to address the underlying causes of the problem. The government, civil society organisations, and community leaders all came together to find a solution that would protect the rights and interests of all parties involved.

Identify the ethical issues in the case. What Steps should be taken to prevent the effect of Illegal Migration. (20 marks/300 words)

Ans:-

Q16. You are working as a Chief Development Officer in a district. You are known for your honesty and dedication to work. All the files related to development work and contracts in the district pass through your office. This makes your office vulnerable to corruption. You have made it clear to your staff that you will follow zero tolerance to corruption in office and very strict action will be taken against anyone who indulges in corruption.

One day a contractor came to meet you regarding an ongoing project. He informed you that your peon takes money from all the contractors for telling them about your schedule and meeting timings.

The contractor told you that it is difficult to meet you because of your busy schedule. The peon takes money and informs them about timings when you are available in the office. It saves them much effort and makes it easy to meet you.

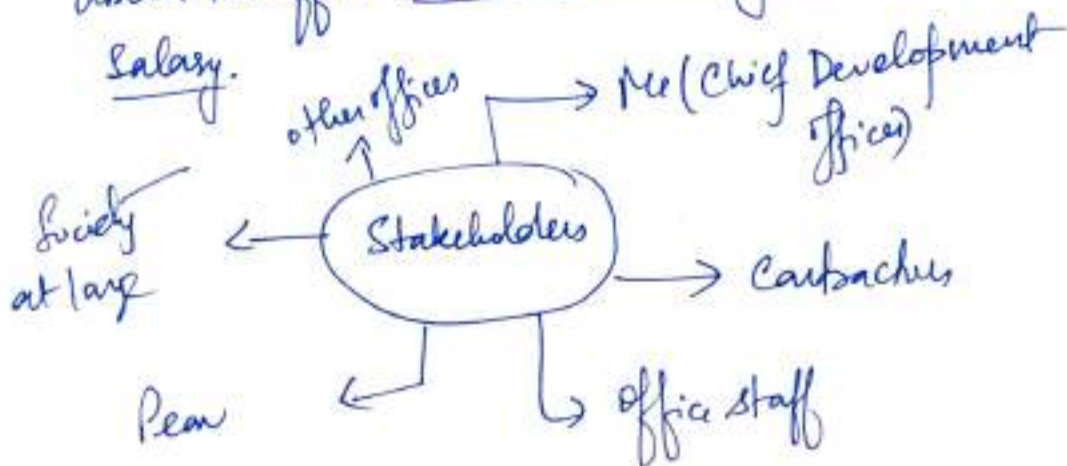
You are unhappy with your peon. You called him and asked for an explanation. The peon told you that he does not ask for money, it is the contractors who give him money on their own. The amount it is very small, just sufficient for tea or coffee. He further tells that he has 6 daughters, all of who are unmarried. His youngest daughter has a chronic illness and she is bedridden. He tells you that he is in dire need of money. He also tells you that this is a common practice and peons of all the officers get money from the contractors for facilitating their meetings with other officers.

You enquired about his story with your other staff and whatever he told you about his daughters was true. You know that the salary of a peon is not sufficient for taking care of such a large family and getting good treatment for her daughter. There is also the problem of dowry in the area which makes The marriage of women is expensive.

a) Why are such acts of petty corruption considered acceptable in government offices?

b) Is there a case for serious action against the peon? What will be your course of action to deal with the situation? (20 marks/300 words)

Ans:- The above case study reflects the scenario of Corruption especially from supply side (contractors) as well as its legis. legalisation. Also - the facts about the office Peon who is seeing on meagre salary.



Ans a :- Acceptance of ^{petty} government corruption in government offices

The following reasons can be ascertained as -

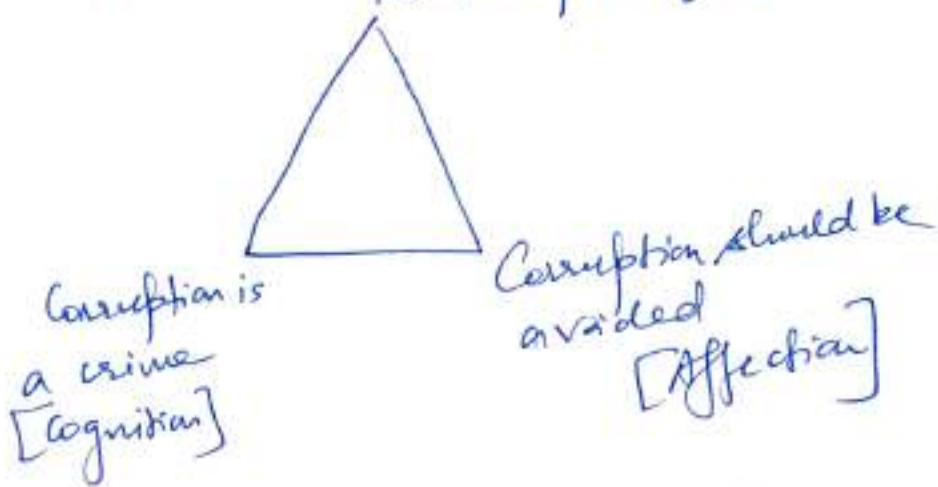
- ① "Done Thing" in society - Petty corruption is considered "Done thing" through validation in offices.
- ② Attempts of making it into regular practice - as some considers it to be the "grease in bureaucracy".
- ③ No fear psychosis - as petty corruption are hardly checked and fined.
- ④ No use of e-governance / ethical governance.

Ans b :- No, there is no serious action against the person. However there have to be changes in the bureaucratic arena under my Zone of Influence for rectifying/correcting the shortcoming.

Course of Action to deal with Situation

① Prepare an Integrity Pact for the contractors so that they avoid indulging into corrupt petty/big corruption.

② Inform my colleagues, office staff and other offices not to indulge in any corruption and change their attitude through CAB model



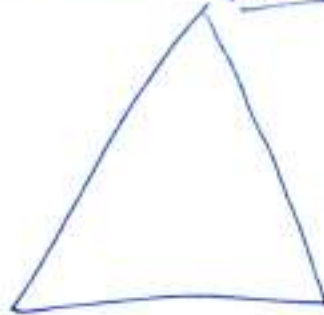
③ Warn the Peon for future situations.

④ Provide Peon the peon in my personal capacity the necessary money and inform him about schemes like PM-Jan Arogya Yojana/Health Insurance

⑤ Prevent Dowry in my area through Logos -

Ethos-Pathos Model

Pathos [Stray women like Louisa, etc]



→ Prohibition of Dowry

Logos
[Dowry is a crime]

Ethos
[Girl/women are asset not liability]

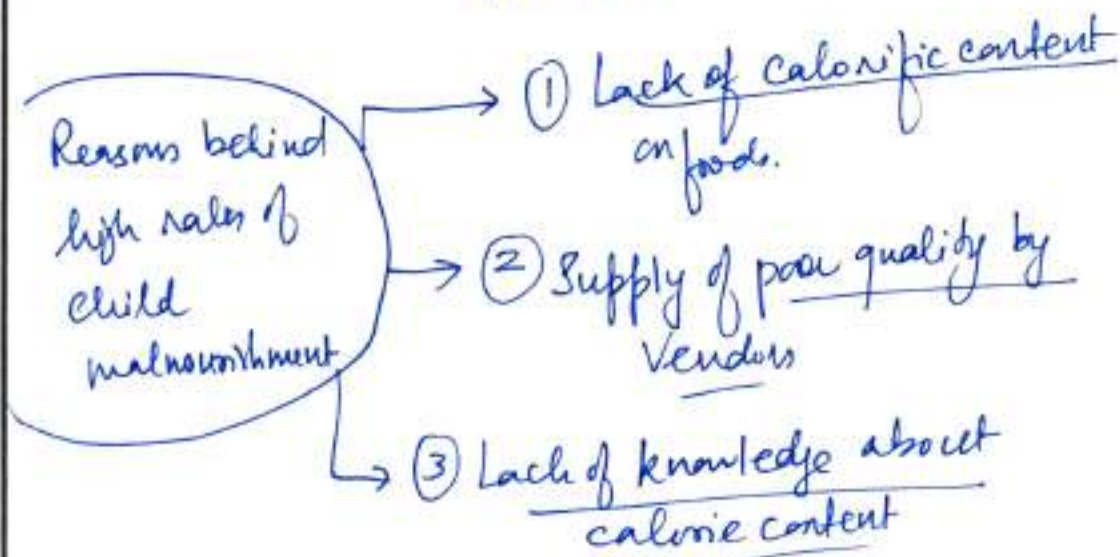
Thus, the above course of action will safeguard the meritocracy of the case and will be under the protocols.

Q17. You are posted as the District Development Commissioner (DDC) in a region which has high rates of child mal-nourishment. For last few months, you have been receiving complaints regarding poor quality of food given under the Midday Meal Scheme. Responding on the complaints, you found that most of the meals served failed the calorie test as per the criterion under the scheme. Some vendors supply poor quality deliberately as it is more profitable but many others don't have the right knowledge of which food contains what nutrients. Calorie knowledge is also less among children and teachers.

Special instruments are required for exact calorie counts which are not available in abundance. Also limited suppliers are there and blacklisting them would completely stall the process.

Analyse the problem and explain various repercussions of it. Also explain what steps you can take in order to effectively resolve this problem. (20 marks/300 words)

Ans:- This case study pertains to a situation where the Mid-day Meal Scheme (MDM) is not followed in true spirit compromising the health of childrens. and also lack of special instruments to measure.



Repercussions of the above problem:-

- ① Increasing child drop out rates.
- ② Deterioration of child health - reducing efforts to achieve SDG goal - Good health and well being
- ③ More effect on girls - health
- ④ Monopoly of the vendor.
- ⑤ Effecting the growth of the village
- ⑥ Effecting my overall efforts

Steps to be taken to resolve the problem

- ① Appoint a Nodal officer - to educate the stakeholder - children, teachers, vendors, cook about calorific value.
- ② Use fear psychosis for the vendors using monopoly and who is profiteering
- ③ Enable the schemes / development of capacity of the present vending / supplier of instruments

for immediate resolution.

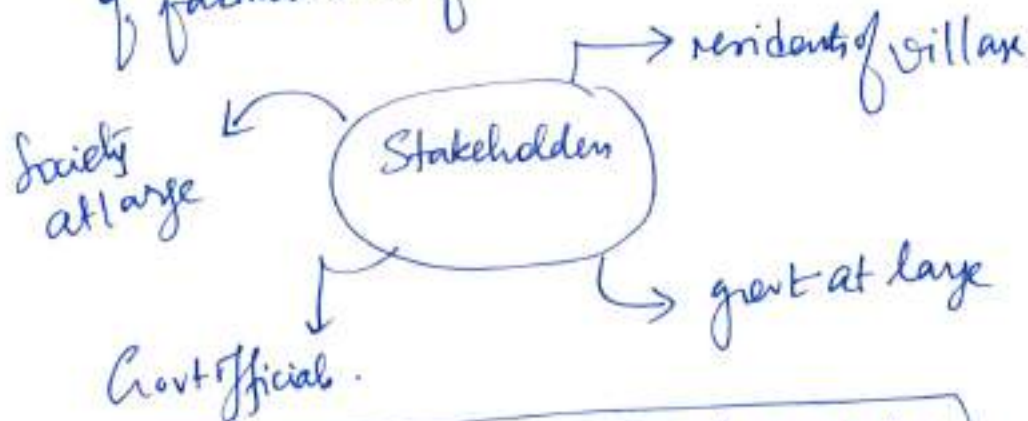
- ④ Under Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan - make provision for other entrepreneurs to supply special instruments.
- ⑤ Appoint a decentralized- Social Audit Mechanism for the scheme.
- ⑥ Personally, visit after taking stock of events.

Thus, through such ways -
the problem could be mitigated as well as
prevented in future.

Q18. In a small village in Assam, a community of farmers and fishermen lived on land that had been passed down through generations. One day, they received a notice from the local government stating that their land had been designated for a new industrial park and that they had to vacate within a month. The villagers were shocked and devastated. They had lived on the land for decades and had no other means of livelihood. They knew that they had to fight for their rights, but they didn't know where to start. The government officials, on the other hand, were under immense pressure to clear the land for the industrial park. They argued that the land had been acquired legally and that the villagers had been compensated fairly. They insisted that the eviction had to proceed as planned.

What are the Ethical Dilemmas faced by Civil Servants in Such scenarios. Mention some Ways in which such a dilemma can be resolved. (20 marks/300 words)

Ans:- The above case study revolves around a village area of Assam - whereby the land is to be evacuated for an industrial park - however the community of farmers and fisherman will lose the livelihood.



Ethical Dilemmas faced by Civil Servants in such scenarios?

① Objectivity against Compassion

→ follow the rules based order or be compassionate towards the villagers.

② Order from Seniors v. Conscience

→ whether to follow the order of seniors or follow the conscience

③ Development v. Livelihood

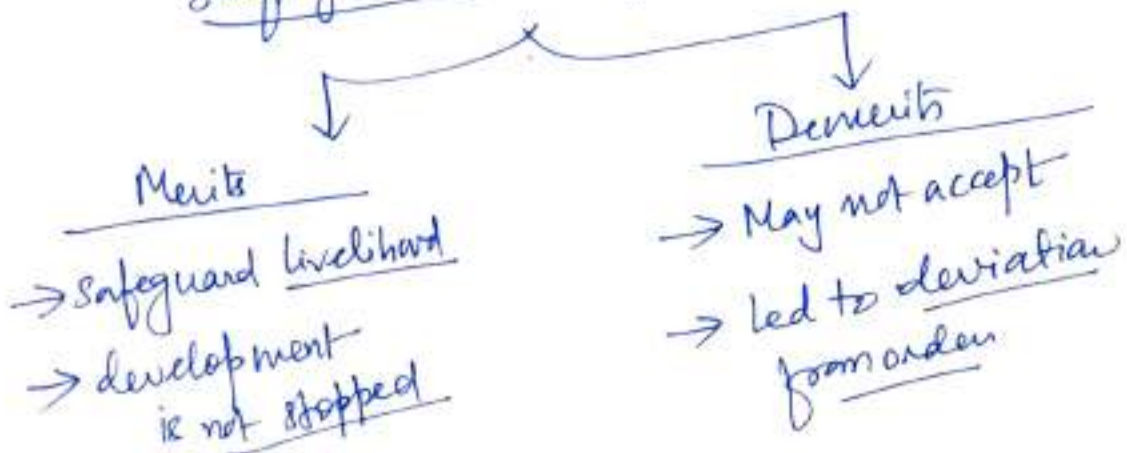
→ whether to support development (industrial parks) or safeguard the livelihood.

Some ways in which such a dilemma can be resolved

Option 1 :- Persuade the government

→ Persuade the higher authorities about the context and prepare a ground report

→ Acknowledge the issues and persuade for shifting the location of the industrial parks



option 2 → Compensate and go for development

→ compensate the villagers in good amount

→ start the development



Merits

- development done
- obeying orders
of the higher authorities

Demerits

- Suffer livelihood
- Crisis of conscience

option 3 $\rightarrow$ Take time for development and
rehabilitate + livelihood

→ Take some extra time for the development limits in other

- Rehabilitate the community in other parts and urge the civil organizations to help

→ skill them for employment in Industrial Park



मेरी

→ Merits in every line

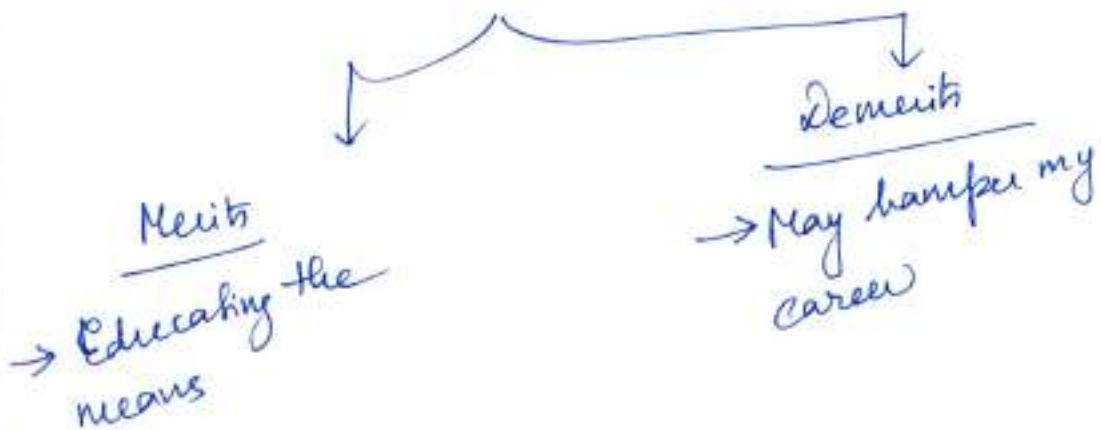
Demeit

→ May not get adapted

Option 4 → Educate the villagers for Accessing
justice for their rights.

→ Educate the villagers to approach judiciary or
other authorities for their rights

→ Act as per the order of judgement



Q19. A girl in Biswanath district of Assam was denied entry in the exam hall for allegedly not being dressed properly. Other faculties and guardians complained about the issue. They claimed that this kind of over exposing dress may lead to distraction of boys and other male candidates. Analyse the issue from a different ethical perspective. You are Principal of the college. What will you do?

(20 marks/300 words)