

**CC/M/EXAM.**  
**2020**  
**GENERAL STUDIES**  
**PAPER—IV**

Time : 3 hours ]

[ Full Marks : 250

**All** questions are to be attempted. The number of marks carried by a question is indicated against it.

**SECTION—A**

Answer the following questions :

1. (a) Explain the notion of 'commitment to public service' with suitable examples.  
(150 words) 10  
(b) What are the challenges of being a public servant in the age of media and post-truth? Explain with hypothetical situations. (150 words) 10
2. (a) How to take decisions beyond the parochialism of caste, creed and regionalism in public affairs? Examine. (150 words) 10  
(b) Can we solve the problems of public life only with bureaucratic rules or do we need other apparatuses like education, cultural training etc.? Reflect.  
(150 words) 10
3. (a) "Integrity of a public servant builds trust among people". Discuss. (150 words) 10  
(b) What are the ways of achieving impartiality and non-partisanship in public administration? Elaborate. (150 words) 10
4. (a) What is the role of Liberal Education in shaping one's character and conduct? Explain. (150 words) 10  
(b) How should one handle the lures of power and profit in public administration? Elaborate. (150 words) 10
5. (a) How can a public servant be guided by the Gandhian philosophy? Illustrate with examples. (150 words) 10  
(b) Discuss the role of Dr. B. R. Ambedkar's thought in ensuring social justice in public life. (150 words) 10

6. What does each of the following quotations mean to you?

- (a) "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit"—Aristotle. (150 words) 10
- (b) "Science is organized knowledge. Wisdom is organized life"—Kant. (150 words) 10
- (c) "If you are still looking for that one person who will change your life, take a look in the mirror." (150 words) 10

## SECTION—B

Answer the following questions :

7. Almost forty years back, in a university, the head of the institution did not choose a candidate who was meritorious for the post of lecturer. He chose the second one in the order of merit. When asked, why did he choose the lesser meritorious, he replied that the candidate he chose might have fallen short of a little bit of merit, but he was the most suitable for the job. He further explained that it was a subjective decision, but with a good intention. "We cannot", he said, "simply go ahead with merit alone, but with subjective intuition to build our institutions".  
Discuss the limits of merits and demerits of subjective decisions in building the public institutions in light of the above mentioned anecdote. (250 words) 20
8. As the modern state is becoming more powerful than ever before, it is imposing a lot of restrictions on the people and regulating citizens' public life. Can we think of alternative ways of disciplining citizens? For example, when someone does not wear helmet while riding a bike, the traffic police punishes the person. Instead of penalizing, how about giving him or her a helmet? Like this, what are the alternative ways of ensuring discipline in public life? Illustrate your answer. (250 words) 20
9. Imagine you are posted to an office in a new place. Slowly you find that your fellow workers and subordinates indulge in taking bribe. How do you address this problem? Will you educate them by counselling? Will you straightaway put them under corruption charges? Will you try to get posted to a different place, where you can find uncorrupt subordinates and colleagues? Will you think that it is their problem as long as you are not corrupt? Write your personal response to the problem. (250 words) 20
10. Imagine you are the head of an educational institution where you deny a student an opportunity to take semester-end exams as she falls short of the required attendance. The student pleads you to make an exception as she could not make it to the classes due to personal problems. You do not allow her to take exams. In the next semester, one more student falls short of attendance, but you know her very well that she is so brilliant that she does not require attending classes. Will you apply the attendance rule in this case? Will you overlook the rule and allow the excellent student to give exams? How do you solve the ethical problem in this situation? (250 words) 20

11. New Pension Scheme (NPS) has been introduced in the country. This has given rise to several problems. Persons coming under Old Pension Scheme (OPS) cannot move from one job to another as they lose OPS and come under NPS. This will curtail the mobility of resources. Discuss the current issue of pension as an illogical decision and the ethics of service contract between the employee and the government. (250 words) 20
12. People are generally fed up of public institutions, because these institutions create more problems than solving them. Bureaucratic procedures, red tapism, corruption, etc., make these institutions oppressive and intimidating. How to shape public institutions that play an enabling role, making room for problem solving rather than problem creating? Discuss the ways and means of ensuring quality public service to citizens through public institutions. (250 words) 20

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