Total No. of Printed Pages-7]

CC(M)

ENGLISH

(QUALIFYING)

[01]

Time Allowed - Three Hours	*Maximum Marks-300*

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following Instructions carefully before attempting questions.

*i) Candidates should attempt **All** questions as per the instructions given.*

ii) The number of marks carried by each question is indicated at the end of the question.

iii) Attempt of a part/question shall be counted in sequential order. Unless struck off, attempt of a part/question shall be counted even if attempted partly. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

*iv) Answers must be written in **ENGLISH** only.*

v) Word limit in questions, wherever specified, should be adhered to.

vi) Your answer should be precise and coherent.

vii) If you encounter any typographical error, please read it as it appears in the text book.

viii) Candidates are in their own interest advised to go through the General Instructions on the back side of the title page of the Question-Cum-Answer-Booklet for strict adherence.

1. Write an essay in about 600 words on any one of the following: (100)

a) Spiritual Leadership and Cultural Integrity: Examining the Influence of Godmen in India.

b) Reimagining Labour Laws in India: Pathways to Sustainable Economic Growth.

c) A Peaceful Society Rests on Inclusivity and Plurality.

d) The Ethics and Implications of Government Surveillance in a Democratic Society.

2. Read carefully the passage given below and write your answers to the questions in clear, correct and concise language: (word limit 65-70 words) (5×15= 75)

Across the globe, fertility rates are declining, raising alarms about a potential population crisis. One man recalls how his paternal grandparents in India had ten children, while he and his wife have only two–a personal example of a global trend. India's population surged from 350 million to 1.4 billion over 75 years, yet its fertility rate dropped from 6 to just over 2. Similarly, the global average fell from 4.8 in 1950 to 2.2 in 2021 and is projected to decline further.

Some view this shift positively, citing reduced strain on natural resources and less environmental degradation. However, the author warns of serious social and economic consequences. As birth rates fall, populations age, resulting in fewer working-age individuals and more elderly dependents. This imbalance threatens to overwhelm healthcare and pension systems, slow economic growth, and stifle innovation.

Youth bring fresh ideas, energy, and progress. Without them, societies risk stagnation. While immigration can temporarily ease the effects of population decline, it cannot halt the ageing process. Technological solutions and tax reforms may offer partial relief, but the root causes lie in modern lifestyles. High living costs, inadequate parental support, and evolving social norms have made raising children increasingly challenging.

Even countries like Sweden and France, which offer generous family benefits, struggle to boost fertility. This suggests that policy alone is insufficient. Societies must reassess how they value and support parenthood. Affordable childcare, accessible housing, flexible work arrangements, and equitable sharing of domestic duties are crucial to making parenthood more appealing and sustainable.

a) What example does the author use to illustrate the decline in fertility rates across generations?

b) According to the passage, why is a falling fertility rate considered a potential threat to economies?

c) What are some limitations of relying on immigration to address population decline?

d) Despite offering strong family support policies, why do countries like Sweden and France still face low fertility rates?

e) List at least three societal changes the author suggests to make parenthood more appealing.

3. **Make a précis of the following passage in one-third of its length. The précis must be written in your own words. A title to the précis is not required.** **(75)**

Erasmus's The Ciceronian (1528) opens with a satire of Nosoponus, a writer crippled by obsession with stylistic perfection, who takes weeks to compose even a simple letter. Through this character, Erasmus critiques rigid imitation and the failure to adapt language meaningfully to real-life situations. Rabelais echoes this critique in Gargantua, where humanist-trained characters attempt to prevent war with polished but ineffective texts. Grandgousier's letter and Gallet's oration follow the form of Erasmian moral rhetoric, but their generic nature and lack of responsiveness to context undermine their purpose. Instead of defusing tension, they provoke it.

These failures parallel the workings of Large Language Models (LLMs), which generate text by recombining familiar patterns from a vast corpus rather than through genuine understanding. Like LLMs, Rabelais's humanists rely on language that sounds appropriate but misses the mark pragmatically. Gallet, sent to negotiate peace, delivers a bombastic and accusatory speech that inflames Picrochole instead of opening dialogue. Though intended to express diplomacy, the tone and delivery betray aggression.

Rabelais critiques this solipsism: the use of language as an inward exercise rather than outward communication. Erasmus's pedagogy gave students tools to produce eloquence, but not necessarily to listen or adapt. The automated production of discourse–whether by humanists or machines–loses its illocutionary force, becoming monologic and performative rather than relational.

Ultimately, Rabelais suggests that authentic communication requires humility, responsiveness, and a willingness to truly hear the other. While Gallet speaks at his adversary, Picrochole opens with a genuine question: "What have you got to say?" This, Rabelais implies, is the foundation of real dialogue.

4. a) **Rewrite the following sentences after making necessary corrections. Do not make unnecessary changes in the original sentence.** **(10×1=10)**

i. No sooner he had entered the room when the lights went off.

ii. Being a rainy day, we cancelled the picnic.

iii. The principal along with the teachers have attended the workshop.

iv. The committee have given their decision after long deliberations.

v. Despite of his repeated attempts, he couldn't solve the puzzle.

vi. Hardly had they finished dinner than the guests arrived.

vii. The news are not confirmed yet.

viii. He is more senior than any officer in the department.

ix. If I would have known about the meeting, I would have attended it.

x. She insisted me to stay for dinner.

b) **Supply the missing words.** **(5×1=5)**

i. She finally _____ to the terms of the contract after several rounds of negotiation.

ii. He was charged _____ embezzlement and fraud by the financial authorities.

iii. The government has _____ new regulations to curb environmental pollution.

iv. The scientist _____ a groundbreaking theory that challenged conventional beliefs.

v. The orchestra _____ beautifully during the symphony's final movement.

c) **Use the correct form of verbs given in the brackets.** **(5×1=5)**

i. Had she been informed earlier, she _____ part in the discussion. (take)

ii. This is the only one of his theories that _____ to be universally accepted. (appear)

iii. I wish I _____ her suggestion before making the final decision. (follow)

iv. Had you not reached in time, we _____ our lives. (lose)

v. We tried _____ the train, but we arrived too late. (catch)

d) **Give the antonyms of the following:** **(5×1=5)**

i. Acrimony.

ii. Lofty.

iii. Impenitent.

iv. Umbrage.

v. Boisterous.

5. a) Rewrite each of the following sentences as directed without changing the meaning: **(10×1=10)**

i. She has been painting portraits since she was a child and is still doing so. (Combine using "have/has been … since")

ii. "Had I known the truth, I would have acted differently," he said.

(Change into reported speech)

iii. It is essential for every candidate to submit the application by Friday.

(Begin with: Every candidate …)

iv. Rarely do we see such dedication in young athletes.

(Begin with: Such dedication …)

v. The committee refused to accept the proposal because it was incomplete.

(Begin with: Because the proposal was incomplete …)

vi. I will meet you at the train station. (Change into interrogative)

vii. He did not live for many years in India. (Change into assertive)

viii. Following the trail, we reached our destination. (Change into compound sentence)

ix. It is too soon to determine the outcome. (Change into complex sentence)

x. The mother asked the daughter to tidy her room, and she tidied her room.

(Avoid repeating the underlined clause)

b) **Use the following words to make sentences that bring out their meaning clearly. Do not change the form of the words.**
(Ambiguous and meaningless sentences will not be awarded) **(5×1= 5)**

i. Sesquipedalian.

ii. Enervate.

iii. Pertinacious.

iv. Aggrandize .

v. Convivial.

c) **Choose the appropriate words to fill in the blanks.** **(5×1=5)**

i. Regular exercise and a healthy diet are important _____ measures for maintaining good health. (preventive/ precipitating)

ii. The _____ features of the statue were meticulously detailed, capturing the grace and strength of a horse mid-gallop. (asinine/equine)

iii. The strike in the paper mill has resulted in a _____ loss.

(colossal/comprehensive)

iv. Criminal law has taken long _____ in facilitating access to justice for women by making various provisions. (stride/stand)

v. A person purchasing goods and services for commercial purposes will also not come under the _____ of this act. (purview/review)

d) **Use these idioms/phrases in sentences of your own to bring out their meaning clearly. Do not change the form of the words.** **(5×1=5)**

i. Blue-sky thinking.

ii. Plum job.

iii. Costs an arm and a leg.

iv. Emit smoke from seven orifices.

v. The straw that broke the camel's back.

Total No. of Printed Pages-2]

CC(M)

PAPER - I

ESSAY

[02]

Time Allowed - Three Hours	*Maximum Marks-250*

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions.

(i) *Write **TWO** Essays, choosing **ONE** from each of the Section A and **B,** in about **1000-1200** words each.*

(ii) *The Essay must be written in English medium in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided. No marks will be given for answers written in medium other than the authorized one.*

(iii) *Word limit, as specified, should be adhered to.*

(iv) *Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.*

Write TWO Essays, choosing ONE from each of the Sections, A and B, in about 1000-1200 words each. **(2×125=250)**

SECTION-A

1. Freedom is not the absence of constraints, but the presence of self-governance.

2. Artificial intelligence may solve our problems, but can it understand our values?

3. Progress is not always a straight line.

4. In the Anthropocene, every policy is an environmental policy.

SECTION-B

1. The silence of institutions is more dangerous than the noise of dissent.

2. The morality of means is as significant as the nobility of ends.

3. Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire — yet the flame flickers in unequal winds.

4. Mental Health as a Public Good: Rethinking policy and access.

Total No. of Printed Pages-3]

CC(M)

PAPER - II

GENERAL STUDIES - I

[03]

Time Allowed - Three Hours	*Maximum Marks-250*

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following Instructions carefully before attempting the paper.

i) *There are **Twenty** questions. **All** questions are compulsory.*

ii) *Answers to Questions No. **1** to **10** should be in **150** words, whereas answers to Questions No. **11** to **20** should be in **250** words.*

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

iv) *If you encounter any typographical error, please read it as it appears in the text book.*

v) *Candidates are in their own interest advised to go through the general instructions on the back side of the title page of the Answer Script for strict adherence.*

vi) *No continuation sheets shall be provided to any candidate under any circumstances.*

vii) *No blank page should be left in between answers to various questions.*

[Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society]

1. How do the paintings of Ajanta and the folk art of Kalighat reflect people's emotions, beliefs and social life? **(150 words)** **(10)**

2. Write a short note on Bharata Muni's Natya Shastra. **(150 words)** **(10)**

3. Write a short note on the achievements of Women's Self Defense Corps (WSDC) in Kashmir with special reference to Kanta Wazir. **(150 words)** **(10)**

4. Write briefly on the strengths and shortcomings of moderates in the freedom movement. **(150 words)** **(10)**

5. Highlight the contributions of Rabindranath Tagore in making of modern India. **(150 words)** **(10)**

6. Write a brief note on Suez crisis of 1956. What were its consequences? **(150 words)** **(10)**

7. India's renewable energy capacity has grown manifold in recent years. In this regard, discuss the key government initiatives that are accelerating the achievement of India's clean energy targets. **(150 words)** **(10)**

8. Discuss the consequences of climate change on the food security in tropical countries. **(150 words)** **(10)**

9. Evaluate the impact of improved road and rail connectivity on tourism and livelihoods in Jammu & Kashmir. **(150 words)** **(10)**

10. Explain the geographical factors responsible for the predominance of vineyards in the Mediterranean region. **(150 words)** **(10)**

11. Discuss in brief the growth of trade union movement in India from 1920 to 1930. **(250 words)** **(15)**

12. Discuss Sufism in Kashmir with special reference to Mir Sayyid Ali Hamadani. **(250 words)** **(15)**

13. What were the impacts of British de-industrialization of India on traditional artisanal industry and rural economy of India? **(250 words)** **(15)**

14. 'He was the first Indian Muslim who felt the need of a fresh orientation of Islam and worked for it'. Evaluate the contributions of Sir Syed Ahmed Khan in the light of this statement. **(250 words)** **(15)**

15. To what extent did land reforms and the adoption of democratic institutions contribute to socio-political stability in post-independence India? **(250 words)** **(15)**

16. Discuss how recent policies on semiconductor manufacturing are influencing locational shifts in India's secondary sector industries. **(250 words)** **(15)**

17. How has globalization impacted the rural urban divide in Indian society? Discuss. **(250 words)** **(15)**

18. Developing India's maritime sector is key to supporting the country's trade, economic growth and geopolitical ambitions. Discuss in light of recent developments in the maritime sector. **(250 words)** **(15)**

19. What is temperature inversion? Explain its impact on local weather conditions with suitable examples. **(250 words)** **(15)**

20. Evaluate the hydroelectric potential of India and examine the factors responsible for its uneven spatial distribution. **(250 words)** **(15)**

Questions No. 11 to 20 should be of 250 words

Total No. of Printed Pages-3]

CC(M)

PAPER - III

GENERAL STUDIES - II

[04]

Time Allowed - Three Hours	*Maximum Marks-250*

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following Instructions carefully before attempting the paper.

i) *There are **Twenty** questions. **All** questions are compulsory.*

ii) *Answers to Questions No. **1** to **10** should be in **150** words, whereas answers to QuestionsNo. **11** to **20** should be in **250** words.*

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

iv) *If you encounter any typographical error, please read it as it appears in the text book.*

v) *Candidates are in their own interest advised to go through the general instructions on the back side of the title page of the Answer Script for strict adherence.*

vi) *No continuation sheets shall be provided to any candidate under any circumstances.*

vii) *No blank page should be left in between answers to various questions.*

[Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International Relations]

1. Inclusive and meaningful digital access to e-governance and welfare delivery system is a fundamental right to life and liberty. Discuss. **(150 words)** **(10)**

2. Examine President Droupadi Murmu's statement that "Benefits of development should reach all sections of society, especially the disadvantaged and marginalized." **(150 words)** **(10)**

3. Constitution, not political expediency, should guide Governor of an Indian state. Elucidate. **(150 words)** **(10)**

4. "Delimitation must go beyond counting of citizens to making their voices count." Discuss. **(150 words)** **(10)**

5. Critically analyse the relationship between India and Bangladesh in the light of the recent developments in our neighbourhood. **(150 words)** **(10)**

6. What is caste census and what are its merits and demerits? **(150 words)** **(10)**

7. Turkey's overtures in South Asia are poised to increase India's troubles in coming times. Elucidate. **(150 words)** **(10)**

8. Terrorism is the biggest threat the humanity faces today. Discuss it in the light of terrorist attack in Pahalgam in April 2025. **(150 words)** **(10)**

9. "The international order is undergoing changes of a magnitude not seen since 1945." Discuss. **(150 words)** **(10)**

10. Do you think Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project will be a game changer in maintaining trade and transactions in India's Northeast? **(150 words)** **(10)**

11. Narendra Modi's government in the last one decade has encouraged bureaucrats to think big and break down silos. Discuss. **(250 words)** **(15)**

12. Discuss the vision, objectives and mission of the Citizen's Charter by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS). **(250 words)** **(15)**

13. Discuss the six major provisions of the Waqf Amendment Bill 2025. **(250 words)** **(15)**

14. Is India's federal structure in jeopardy? Give your reasons in the light of Centre-State relations in India at present. **(250 words)** **(15)**

15. Elucidate the statement by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, "The foundation of Viksit Bharat rests on four key pillars - poor, farmers, youth and women." **(250 words)** **(15)**

16. "Gender equality brings more inclusiveness, less violence and lasting peace." Elucidate the statement. **(250 words)** **(15)**

17. Evaluate how Saudi Arabia could be key to India's Act West policy. **(250 words)** **(15)**

18. Critically analyse how India's decision to keep the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance will have serious repercussions on Pakistan. **(250 words)** **(15)**

19. Evaluate India-USA Partnership after Donald Trump began his second tenure as US President? **(250 words)** **(15)**

20. BRICS could be a powerful voice for the Global South. Explain. **(250 words)** **(15)**

Total No. of Printed Pages-3]

CC(M)

PAPER - IV

GENERAL STUDIES - III

[05]

Time Allowed - Three Hours	*Maximum Marks-250*

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following Instructions carefully before attempting the paper.

i) *There are **Twenty** questions. **All** questions are compulsory.*

ii) *Answers to Questions No. **1** to **10** should be in **150** words, whereas answers to Questions No. **11** to **20** should be in **250** words.*

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

iv) *If you encounter any typographical error, please read it as it appears in the text book.*

v) *Candidates are in their own interest advised to go through the general instructions on the back side of the title page of the Answer Script for strict adherence.*

vi) *No continuation sheets shall be provided to any candidate under any circumstances.*

vii) *No blank page should be left in between answers to various questions.*

[Technology, Economic Development, Bio-diversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management]

1. Explain how the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA) and the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR) have played crucial roles in shaping India's disaster risk reduction strategies. **(150 words)** **(10)**

2. Discuss the significance and contribution of India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) in achieving technological self-reliance. **(150 words)** **(10)**

3. How can India improve its Research and Development (R&D) ecosystem to become a global leader in innovation? **(150 words)** **(10)**

4. Explain the triple planetary crisis and give your opinion to tackle the triple planetary crisis. **(150 words)** **(10)**

5. Deep-sea mining stands at the intersection of technological progress and environmental responsibility. Critically examine this statement in the context of today's global challenges. **(150 words)** **(10)**

6. How has UPI expansion impacted financial inclusion in rural India, especially among women and low-income households? **(150 words)** **(10)**

7. How food processing industry of India can help to increase agricultural productivity along with generation of new employment opportunities? Discuss major challenges that India's food processing industry is facing. **(150 words)** **(10)**

8. Discuss the key initiatives undertaken for enhancing logistics efficiency in road connectivity in India. **(150 words)** **(10)**

9. Discuss the recent technological interventions to improve the performance of the 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana' (PMFBY) scheme in India. **(150 words)** **(10)**

10. Discuss the importance of Asset Monetization Policy for National Infrastructure Pipeline of India. What are the major challenges that the policy is facing? **(150 words)** **(10)**

11. Discuss the role of emerging technologies in transforming healthcare system in India? Critically analyse their ethical and regulatory challenges. **(250 words)** **(15)**

12. Agentic AI is poised to revolutionize industries with its versatile functionalities. Is it different from AI agents? Discuss its impact on various sectors highlighting both its benefits and challenges. **(250 words)** **(15)**

13. Present an overview of the major wildlife conservation initiatives in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir. **(250 words)** **(15)**

14. Write an essay on the substantial outcomes and challenges of COP29(Baku Climate Unity Pact). **(250 words)** **(15)**

15. Discuss the structure and functions of National Investigation Agency (NIA). How has its role gained significance in the present day? **(250 words)** **(15)**

16. Which structural factors are driving India's post-COVID GDP growth? How sustainable is this recovery across sectors in India? **(250 words)** **(15)**

17. How effective are the Public Distribution System (PDS) and the PM Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana (PMGKAY) to ensure food security for low-income households in India? Discuss. **(250 words)** **(15)**

18. Discuss various types of subsidies provided to farm sector in India. What are the steps taken by the Government of India to address the objections raised by WTO on farm subsidies? **(250 words)** **(15)**

19. Analyse India's manufacturing sector growth with regards to 'Production Linked Incentive' Scheme. Also discuss the major challenges faced by the Indian manufacturing sector. What policy measures are required to boost India's manufacturing sector? **(250 words)** **(15)**

20. "India brought many programs for women empowerment despite being that women's contribution in GDP is comparatively very less". Analyse the various women empowerment programs with special focus on gender budgeting. **(250 words)** **(15)**

Questions No. 11 to 20 should be in 250 words each.

Total No. of Printed Pages-4]

CC(M)

PAPER - V

GENERAL STUDIES - IV

[06]

Time Allowed - Three Hours	*Maximum Marks-250*

INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following Instructions carefully before attempting the paper.

*i) There are **Twelve** questions divided into **Two** Sections.*

*ii) **All** Questions are compulsory.*

iii) Marks carried by a Question/Part are indicated against it.

iv) Word limit in questions, wherever specified should be adhered to.

v) Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Question-Cum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

vi) Answer must be written in English in the Question-Cum-Answer (QCA) Booklet in the space provided.

SECTION - A

1. a) "Individual moral attitudes shape collective social consciousness." Explain with reference to its application in public service. **(150 words)** **(10)**

   b) "Happiness is the highest good." – Aristotle. How does Aristotle's concept of eudaimonia (flourishing) contribute to our understanding of ethical living and governance? **(150 words)** **(10)**

2. a) "Not just the choices but the intention behind any choice is what makes it ethical." Examine the given statement in light of ethical reasoning and decision making. **(150 words)** **(10)**

   b) Anger and false Ego are harmful for both personal and professional life and are the ground for creating negative emotions and undesirable behaviour. Give your answer with examples. **(150 words)** **(10)**

3. a) How can core ethical values like honesty, compassion, and integrity be preserved in a world driven by competition and materialism? **(150 words)** **(10)**

   b) The cornerstone of good governance depends upon ethical leadership, as it inspires public trust, and champions transparency, accountability, and inclusivity within government institutions. Comment. **(150 words)** **(10)**

4. a) What is "madhyama-pratipada" or the "middle-path approach"? Discuss its application in various domains of life with example. **(150 words)** **(10)**

   b) Modern agricultural practices often prioritize productivity over sustainability. Analyse the ethical challenges involved in balancing food security with environmental conservation. **(150 words)** **(10)**

5. a) Discuss the key principles of feminist ethics and how they differ from traditional ethical theories. **(150 words)** **(10)**

   b) Analyse the ethical challenges posed by the spread of misinformation and fake news on social media platforms. Provide suitable examples to support your arguments. **(150 words)** **(10)**

6. Discuss the moral of the statements given below:

   a) "By common endeavour, we can raise the country to a new greatness, while a lack of unity will expose us to fresh calamities." Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel. **(150 words)(10)**

   b) "Let me define a leader. He must have vision and passion, and not be afraid of any problem. Instead, he should know how to defeat it. Most importantly, he must work with integrity." A.P.J. Abdul Kalam. **(150 words)** **(10)**

   c) "Science has contributed a great deal to war and violence, and people well trained in science are sometimes not entirely rational and are even dogmatic. We have to find a way to teach reflectively, not just scientifically." Nel Nodding. **(150 words)** **(10)**

SECTION - B

7. You are posted as the District Magistrate of a region that is home to a dense forest and a tribal population. The government has proposed a major infrastructure project-a highway-that promises economic development and improved connectivity. However, the proposed route would cut through a large portion of the forest, potentially displacing wildlife, affecting biodiversity, and disrupting the way of life of the tribal communities who live in harmony with nature.

The project has strong political backing and is being justified on the grounds of human development and economic growth. Environmentalists and local activists argue that the project reflects a deeply anthropocentric mindset that prioritizes human convenience over ecological balance and long-term sustainability.

a) Identify the ethical issues involved in the case above.

b) As the District Magistrate, what course of action would you take? Give justification. **(250 words)** **(20)**

8. You are appointed as the Chief Development Officer (CDO) of a district where a centrally sponsored housing scheme for the rural poor is being implemented. The scheme has a clear mandate to provide pucca houses to economically weaker sections. During an inspection, you discover that several beneficiaries listed in the official records either do not exist or are financially well-off. Further, a whistleblower from your own department informs you that bribes were taken by field officers to include ineligible names. There are also allegations that local political leaders pressured junior officials to favour certain beneficiaries.

There is considerable pressure on you from higher authorities to expedite fund disbursal to meet quarterly targets. However, disbursing funds without cleaning up the beneficiary list could mean reinforcing corruption.

a) What are the ethical issues involved in this case?

b) How would you handle the conflict between administrative pressure and ethical conduct?

c) As the CDO, what concrete actions would you take against corrupt practices, and how would you protect the whistleblower? **(250 words)** **(20)**

9. You are the District Education Officer (DEO) in a rural district where a new government scheme promoting STEM education for girls is being launched. During implementation, you notice that many headmasters and local officials are discouraging girls from enrolling in science and technology courses, citing "low interest" or "cultural unsuitability." Some schools are even diverting STEM resources meant for girls to boys. You also learn that parents are hesitant to send their daughters for science workshops held outside the village due to safety and social norms. Your preliminary data suggests that this mindset is affecting enrolment, leading to the underutilisation of funds and gender disparity in educational access.

a) Identify the ethical issues involved in this scenario.

b) What values and principles should guide your response as a public servant?

c) What immediate and long-term steps would you take to promote gender equality in education? How would you address cultural resistance without alienating the local community? **(250 words)** **(20)**

10. You are the manager of a reputed firm. One of your employees has just been diagnosed with a treatable form of cancer. He has confided in you about the status of his health. He has also requested to not disclose it to anyone as he is not comfortable sharing it. Over the next few months, this employee is frequently absent,especially during his radiation treatments. His absence is not a major issue for the company as he can work from home.

However, some of the employees of the company feel that he is getting special treatment and planning to raise the same issue with the seniors of the company. If this happens, it would create serious issue for the employee who is suffering.

a) Identify the stakeholders and the ethical issues involved in the case.

b) How would you handle this situation? Suggest an appropriate course of action. **(250 words).** **(20)**

11. You are posted as the Superintendent of Police (SP) in a border district that has recently witnessed a rise in violent crimes and communal tensions. Intelligence reports indicate that illegal weapons are being smuggled into the region, possibly with the collusion of some local police officers and political elements. During a routine check, your team apprehends a van carrying unlicensed arms. Upon investigation, it is revealed that the weapons were destined for distribution ahead of an upcoming election. Senior political leaders are allegedly involved, and there is pressure from higher-ups to bury the investigation quietly. At the same time, whistleblowers within the department are facing threats, and your honesty is being questioned by powerful groups.

a) What are the ethical issues involved in this situation? What values should guide your decision-making as a public servant?

b) How would you deal with political pressure while ensuring justice and public safety? What steps would you take to protect whistleblowers and prevent the recurrence of such illegal activities? **(250 words)** **(20)**

12. You are the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Cyber Cell) in a metropolitan city. Recently, a major cyber fraud case has emerged where thousands of senior citizens were duped through fake investment apps. Preliminary investigation traces the scam to a network of tech-savvy youth, many of whom are first-time offenders from well-educated, middle-class backgrounds. Some of the arrested individuals express remorse and claim they were manipulated by anonymous handlers online. The media is sensationalising the issue, and there's pressure from political and social groups demanding strict punishment. At the same time, many victims have lost their life savings and demand justice.

You must decide how to proceed with the investigation, while balancing justice, public pressure, and the future of the young accused.

a) What are the ethical issues involved in this case?

b) How would you ensure justice for the victims without overlooking the possibility of reform for the accused?

c) What long-term steps would you recommend to curb cybercrime and promote digital ethics? **(250 words)** **(20)**