Both theory and case study questions are not only as per pattern followed by LUKMAAN IAS but also questions are directly from our Class-Room Program, Test Series and 100 Case Study Session.

Some questions of UPSC PAPER-IV (ETHICS) 2018 are not only similar but also exactly the same including case study Q.8 instruction as asked by LUKMAAN IAS in TEST and CASE STUDY PROGRAMS.

Case Study 7 & 12 of 2018 paper have been part of our 100 Case Study Sessions since 2013.

“It cannot be merely a coincidence but rather a result of diligence, dedication and a commitment to match UPSC standards.”
Section A

Q1. a) State the three basic values, universal in nature, in the context of civil services and bring out their importance. (150 words) 10

BEFORE PRE (CSE 2017) PAPER 3 QUESTION NO 4 (A)
Discuss the significance of foundational values in civil services. In your views, which five values are most important and why?

(b) Distinguish between “Code of ethics” and “Code of conduct” with suitable examples. (150 words) 10

BEFORE PRE (CSE 2017) AND CSE 2018 PAPER 4 QUESTION NO 4 (B) AND 4A
Q. Comment on the relationship between code of conduct and code of ethics.
Q. Comment on the role of code of conduct and code of ethics in civil services. Are they helpful in establishing accountable civil service? Justify your view.

Q2. (a) What is mean by public interest? What are the principles and procedures to be followed by the civil servants in public interest? (150 words) 10

AFTER PRE-ETHICS TEST SERIES 2018 Q. N. 7 (Similar Theme)
Society has increasingly become money-driven and hence, commercialisation of even many social sectors such as education and health. Explain how this affects the concept of public service?

Q3. (a) What is mean by conflict of interest? Illustrate with examples, the difference between the actual and potential conflicts of interest. (150 words) 10

BEFORE PRE (CSE 2017) PAPER 2 QUESTION NO 1 (A) AND ETHICS TEST SERIES 2018 PAPER 4
Q. What is ‘conflict of interest’ for a civil servant? Explain with any recent developments.
Q. 4. (b) With regard to the morality of actions, one view is that means is of paramount importance and the other view is that the ends justify the means. Which view do you think is more appropriate? Justify your answer. (150 words) 10

TEST 3 ETHICS TEST SERIES CSE2018 Q. NO 1
Q. In your view, which is most appropriate way to determine human action as ethical: the quality of the action or the outcome of the action? Explain with suitable examples.

Q.5. (b) Explain the process of resolving ethical dilemmas in Public Administration. (150 words) 10

BEFORE PRE (CSE 2018) PAPER 2 ETHICS TEST SERIES Q NO. 8
Explain the concept of ethical dilemma with examples by taking into consideration a choice between law and conscience for a civil servant.

BEFORE PRE (CSE 2017) PAPER 2 QUESTION NO 2 (B)
Civil servants often face dilemma between merit on the one hand and obedience on the other. How such dilemma can be effectively tackled?

6.(b) “Anger and intolerance are the enemies of correct understanding.” _ Mahatma Gandhi (150 words) 10

AFTER PRE (CSE 2018) PAPER IV GS TEST SERIES TEST 10
(Similar Theme)
Unity, forgiveness and love should be the basis of preserving one’s culture as against protection and pride. Argue in the light of recent religious and social conflicts in our society.
Q.7 - Rakesh is a responsible district level officer, who enjoys the trust of his higher officials. Knowing his honesty, the government entrusted him with the responsibility of identifying the beneficiaries under a health care scheme meant for senior citizens.

The criteria to be a beneficiary are the following:
(a) 60 years of age or above.
(b) Belonging to a reserved community.
(c) Family income of less than 1 Lakh rupees per annum.
(d) Post-treatment prognosis is likely to be high to make a positive difference to the quality of life of the beneficiary.

One day, an old couple visited Rakesh’s office with their application. They have been the residents of a village in his district since their birth. The old man is diagnosed with a rare condition that causes obstruction in the large intestine. As a consequence, he has severe abdominal pain frequently that prevents him from doing any physical labour. The couple has no children to support them. The expert surgeon whom they contacted is willing to do the surgery without charging any fee. However, the couple will have to bear the cost of incidental charges, such as medicines, hospitalization, etc., to the tune of rupees one lakh. The couple fulfils all the criteria except criterion ‘b’. However, any financial aid would certainly make a significant difference in their quality of life.

How should Rakesh respond to the situation? (250 words) 20

Q.8. As a senior officer in the Ministry, you have access to important policy decisions and upcoming big announcements such as road constructions projects before they are notified in the public domain. The Ministry is about to announce a mega road project for which the drawings are already in place. Sufficient care was taken by the planners to make use of the government land with the minimum land acquisition from private parties. Compensation rate for private parties was also finalized as per government rules. Care was also taken to minimize deforestation. Once the project is announced, it is expected that there will be a huge spurt in real estate prices in and around that area. Meanwhile, the Minister concerned insists that you realign the road in such a way that it comes closer to his 20 acres farmhouse. He also suggests that he would facilitate the purchase of a big plot of land in your wife name at the prevailing rate which is very nominal, in and around the proposed mega road project. He also tries to convince you...
by saying that there is no harm in it as he is buying the land legally. He even promises
to supplement your savings in case you do not have sufficient funds to buy the land.
However, by the act of realignment, a lot of agricultural lands has to be acquired,
thereby causing a considerable financial burden on the government, and also the
displacement of the farmers. As if this is not enough, it will involve cutting down of a
large number of trees denuding the area of its green cover. Faced with this situation,
what will you do? Critically examine various conflicts of interest and explain what your
responsibilities are as a public servant.

We have this case study with exactly the same instruction

BEFORE PRE (CSE 2017) PAPER 4 QUESTION NO 11 CASE STUDY

As a senior officer in the Ministry of Public Works Department you have
access to important policy decisions and upcoming big announcements such as road
construction projects before they are notified in the public. Your son is a land dealer and
realtor. The Ministry is about to announce a mega road project. Once it is announced, the
land price in the vicinity would see a steep hike. You have access to maps and know the
dimensions of land to be acquired. Your son wants to know the complete details and he
is insisting you about this. He wants to buy the land at present rates which is very cheap
in and around the soon to be announced project. He is trying to convince you by saying
that he would purchase land confidentially and there would be no problem in future for
you. You are aware that the Minister has already shared this information with his children
who are also into the land business. In fact, the minister has asked you to do the same so
that your son also makes huge profits. He has tried to convince you by saying that his and
your children are buying land legally and there is no harm in it.
In this situation, what will you do? Critically examine various conflicts of interests at play
in this case study and explain what are your responsibilities as a public servant.

Note: This case study has been part of our Case Study Session since 2016

Q.10. A big corporate house is engaged in manufacturing industrial chemicals on a large scale. It
proposes to set upon the additional unit. Many states rejected its proposal due to the
detrimental effect on the environment. But one state government acceded to the request
and permitted the unit close to a city, brushing aside all opposition. The unit was set up 10 years ago and was in full swing till recently. The pollution caused by
the industrial effluents was affecting the land, water and crops in the area. It was also
causing serious health problems to human beings and animals. This gave rise to a series of
agitation thousands of people took part, creating a law and order problem necessitating
stern police action. Following the public outcry, the State government ordered the closure
of the factory.

The closure of the factory resulted in the unemployment of not only those workers who
were engaged in the factory but also those who were working in the ancillary units. It also
very badly affected those industry which depended on the chemicals manufactured by it.
As a senior officer entrusted with the responsibility of handling this issue, how are you going
to address it? (250 words) 20
There is one locality which has been experiencing reports of cancer due to nearby dye factories. The findings are based on investigation by the premier investigating agency of the country. Due to the chemicals used by the factories, there is contamination of ground water, which in turn causing cancer to local people living in vicinity. After the findings, the factories have got court order for immediate closure. But, the local people livelihood also depends on such factories and therefore, even after the closure order, the factories are functioning and local people have not stopped going for work in such factories. They don’t have nearby alternative livelihood and some of them don’t want closure of such factories. Suppose you belong to the locality and you are aware of such development but you were not speaking due to lack of any strong basis for link between cancer and chemical used by the factories. Now what will be your response to effectively tackle the issues and challenges?

Q.12. Edward Snowden, a computer expert and former CIA administrator, released confidential Government documents to the press about the existence of Government surveillance programmes. According to many legal experts and the US Government, his action violated the Espionage act of 1971, which identified the leak of State secret as an act of treason. Yet, despite the fact that he broke the law, Snowden argued that he had a moral obligation to act. He gave a justification for his “whistle blowing” by stating that he had a duty “to inform the public as to that which is done in there name and that which is done against them.”

According to Snowden, the Government’s violation of privacy had to be exposed regardless of legality since more substantive issues of social action and public morality were involved here. Many agreed with Snowden. Few argued that he broke the law and compromised national security, for which he should be held accountable.

Do you agree that Snowden’s actions were ethically justified even if legally prohibited? Why or why not? Make an argument by weighing the competing values in this case (250 words)
supporters Snowden is a hero of the “law-breaking” variety — a man who “stole” government documents to expose the activities of its most corrupt and secretive agencies. Such a circumstance gives cause to stop and examine the basic assumptions of government claims to ownership of the secret information it collects. Implicit in the charge that documents have been “stolen” and that there has been “unauthorized disclosure” is the requirement that the documents and information in question are legitimately owned by the government, and that communication of their contents legitimately requires government authorization.

QUESTIONS
a) How will you react on the conduct of Snowden, ethical or unethical?

b) Whistleblowing should not be regarded as ethical. Comment.

c) If one takes these obligations at face value then it would appear that whistleblowing must always be regarded as a breach of law, and possibly also a breach of ethics, at least insofar as it involves a breach of contract with the organization where the whistle blower is employed. Analyse.
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