

Mudit Jain Ethics Case Study

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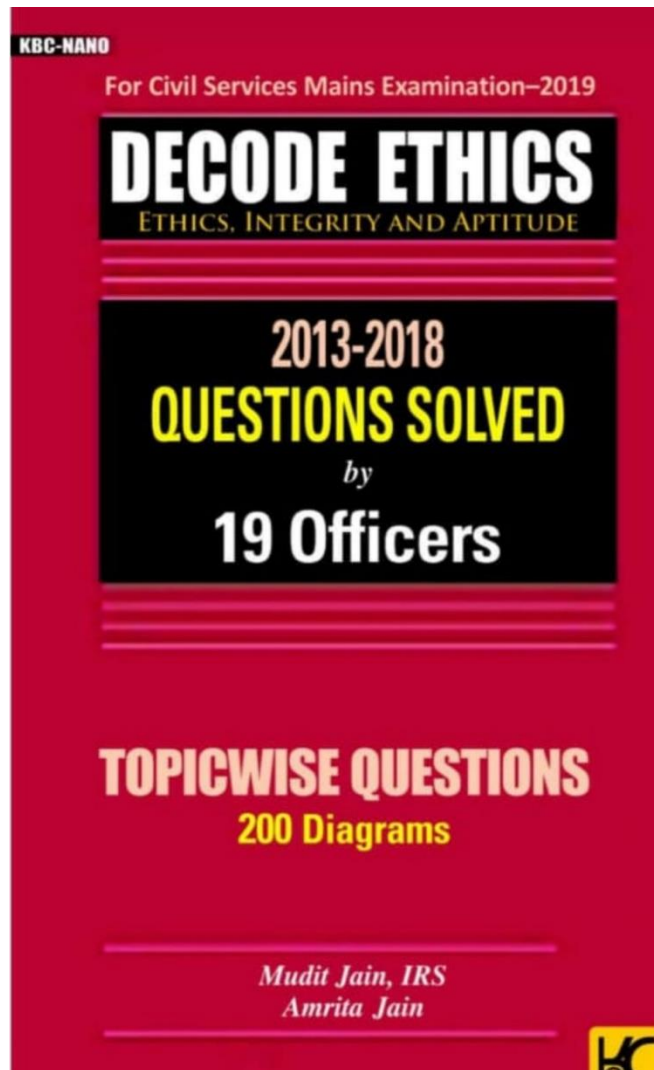
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**UPSC MAINS Ethics 2019 Paper Question Sources And
Answer Content:**

<https://muditjainblog.wordpress.com/2019/09/29/ethics-2019-detailed-question-sources-and-answer-content/>



**Ethics Paper 2019 – References From “Decode Ethics”
Book by Mudit Jain**

- Q 1. (a) **What are the basic principles of public life? Illustrate any three with suitable examples.**
Decode Ethics Book Page No: Public life page 76, principles page 81.
- Q 1. (b) **What do you understand by the term ‘public servant’? Reflect on the expected role of public servant.**
Decode Ethics Book Page No: Public servant page 294, roles page 82, values from code page 195
- Q 2. (a) **Effective utilization of public funds is crucial to meet development goals. Critically examine the reasons for under- utilization and mis-utilization of public funds and their implications.**
Decode Ethics Book Page No: 331-333, sample question 2 page 334
- Q 2. (b) **“Non-performance of duty by a public servant is a form of corruption”. Do you agree with this view? Justify your answer**
Decode Ethics Book Page No: PoCA (forbearance) page 335, sample question 2 page 344
- Q 3. (a) **What is meant by the term ‘constitutional morality’? How does one uphold constitutional morality?**
Decode Ethics Book Page No: 195
- Q 3. (b) **What is meant by ‘crisis of conscience’? How does it manifest in the public domain?**
Decode Ethics Book Page No: 266-268
- Q 4. (a) **Explain the basic principles of citizens’ charter movement and bring out its importance.**
Decode Ethics Book Page No: 315-318

Q 4. (b) **There is a view that the official secrets act is an obstacle to the implementation of Rights to Information act. Do you agree with the view? Discuss**

Decode Ethics Book Page No: Confidentiality page 182, administrative secrecy page 257, RTI rejections page 300

Q 5. (a) **What do you understand by probity in governance? Based on your understanding of the term, suggest measures for ensuring probity in government.**

Decode Ethics Book Page No: 291, 292, sample question 2 page 294

Q 5. (b) **“Emotional Intelligence is the ability to make your emotions work for you instead of against you.” Do. you agree with this view? Discuss.**

Decode Ethics Book Page No: Values-emotion page 96, definition page 200, quotes page 219, 220

Q 6. (a) **“An unexamined life is not worth living.” – Socrates**

Decode Ethics Book Page No: Socrates ideal life page 222, Kierkegaard life page 239

Q 6 (b) **“A man is but the product of his thoughts. What he thinks, he becomes.” – M.K.Gandhi**

Decode Ethics Book Page No: 109-111, 125-126, sample question 10 page 242

Q 6. (c) **“Where there is righteousness in the heart, there is beauty in the character. When there is beauty in the character, there is harmony in the home. When there is harmony in the home, there is order in the nation. When there is order in the nation, there is peace in the world.” – A.P.J. Abdul Kalam**

Decode Ethics Book Page No: Kalam’s quote in reverse page 123

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In the following questions, carefully study the cases presented and then answer the questions that follow (in around 250 words):

9. You, a reporter currently working as an intern, accompanied a small group of reporters to a political event organized by the ruling party's state unit. The party was followed by dinner where you were also asked to join. Here, you noticed that alcohol was being served to some members of the ruling party. Consumption of alcohol had been declared illegal in the state a few months ago and the ban is being enforced strictly across the state. The other reporters in your group ignored the issue and asked you to ignore it as well. However, it was clear to you that the law was not being followed.

(a) Identify the issues involved in this scenario.

(b) What are your duties in such a scenario?

(c) What course of action would you follow and why?

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आप एक प्रशिक्षु संवाददाता (रिपोर्टर) के रूप में, मत्ताधारी दल की राज्य इकाई द्वारा आयोजित एक राजनीतिक कार्यक्रम में संवाददाताओं के एक छोटे से समूह के साथ गए हैं। कार्यक्रम के बाद रात्रि-भोजन में आपसे सम्मिलित होने के लिए कहा गया। रात्रि-भोजन के दौरान आपने ध्यान दिया कि मत्ताधारी दल के कुछ सदस्यों को शराब परोसी जा रही थी। उस राज्य में कुछ महीनों पहले शराब के सेवन को अवैध घोषित किया गया था और पूरे राज्य में कठोरतापूर्वक इस पर प्रतिबन्ध लगाया जा रहा है। आपके समूह के अन्य संवाददाताओं ने इस मुद्दे को अनदेखा किया और आपको भी इसे अनदेखा करने के लिए कहा। हालांकि, आपको यह स्पष्ट रूप से ज्ञात था कि कानून का पालन नहीं किया जा रहा था।

(a) इस परिदृश्य से जुड़े मुद्दों की पहचान कीजिए।

(b) इस परिदृश्य में आपके कर्तव्य क्या हैं?

(c) आप क्या कदम उठाएंगे और क्यों?

Actors Involved:

- ① Me, intern reporter
- ② other group of reporters
- ③ political party members

Ethical dilemmas:-

- ① Personal vs organizational
- ② personal vs political members
- ③ legal vs current scenario.

(a) Hence the issues involved in this situation are:-

- Alcohol is served despite ban
- public authorities (political party members) are having alcohol in open (moral issue)
- It also a legal issue in this case.
- Other reporters asked me to ignore (personal vs organizational)
- My own conscience & dilemma between it & political members actions.
- How alcohol found its way in state where ban is enforced?

(b) My duties in such a scenario :-

- As a intern, I bring issue to

other reporters including senior reporters.

- As alcohol is banned, duty shall be to enforce law & hence do the same.

- Follow a course of action that solves all ethical dilemmas and challenges various actors face.

(c) course of action :-

① Bring issue to senior reporters (given it is already done).

② As reporters have ignored the issue, I would persuade them again by means in line with ethical principles,

emotional intelligence etc.

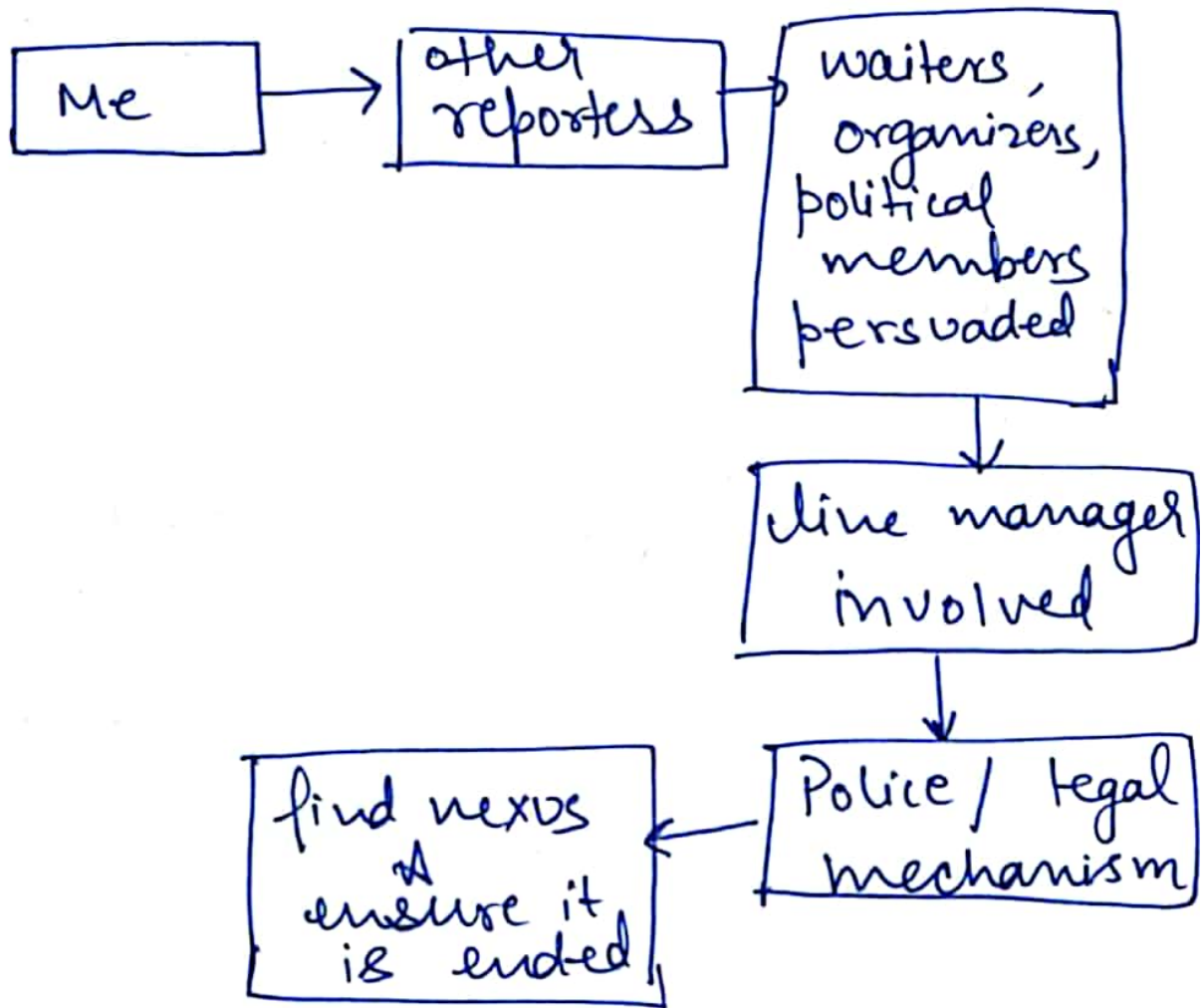
③ As they have asked me to ignore the issue, on pursuing again & again if they continue to deny action, then I will take matter to my line managers / higher authority.

④ In meanwhile, I would try to find out source of alcohol in party via waiters & organizers.
& try to talk to some of party members.

⑤ If line manager also refuses to help, even if he/she asks me to ignore issue, I will take legal route by calling Police.

The course is taken as :-

- ① I am just an intern so I have to involve seniors & managers as situation is critical involving political party members.
- ② Talking to ^{political} party members is important as it may solve the issue at basic levels (though not address all concerns).
- ③ Involving police to enforce law is last resort as legal & ethical principles are most important & shall be upheld for organizational & public integrity.



④ Finding nexus of alcohol business is important here to end menace for long term sustainable so that law is enforced.

This action ensures tackling of personal vs organizational vs societal dilemmas & takes care of legal

10. You are posted as the Sub-Divisional Magistrate (SDM) in a district. As the SDM it is your responsibility to conduct interviews and select a candidate for the post of an ASHA worker in the district. On the day you are conducting the interviews, you are approached by the MLA of the local constituency who asks you to choose a particular lady for this position by overlooking the other candidates. On checking her documents you find that she is eligible in all respects. The MLA implores that she should be given the post on compassionate grounds as her husband was a soldier who was martyred in a war. Some of the options to handle the situation could be as follows:

- (a) Ignore the MLA and proceed with the process of selection.
- (b) Speak to your superior and seek his guidance on the matter.
- (c) Appoint the lady to the post as it is a compassionate appointment.

Also suggest other possible options.

Evaluate each of these options and suggest the best course of action, giving reasons for it. 20

आप एक जिले में सब-डिविज़नल मजिस्ट्रेट (SDM) के पद पर नियुक्त हैं। SDM के रूप में, जिले में आशा (ASHA) कार्यकर्ता के पद हेतु माक्षात्कार आयोजित करना एवं उम्मीदवार का चयन करना आपकी जिम्मेदारी है। जिस दिन आप माक्षात्कार ले रहे हैं, उसी दिन आपके पास स्थानीय निर्वाचन क्षेत्र के एक विधायक (MLA) आते हैं और आपसे अन्य उम्मीदवारों की उपेक्षा कर, इस पद के लिए एक विशिष्ट महिला का चयन करने के लिए कहते हैं। उनके दस्तावेजों की जांच करने से आपको ज्ञात होता है कि वह सभी दृष्टियों में पात्र है। विधायक का निवेदन है कि उस महिला को अनुकंपा के आधार पर पद दिया जाना चाहिए क्योंकि उसका पति सैनिक था जो युद्ध में शहीद हुआ था। इस स्थिति में निपटने के लिए कुछ विकल्प इस प्रकार हो सकते हैं:

- (a) विधायक की अनदेखी की जाए और चयन प्रक्रिया को आगे बढ़ाया जाए।
- (b) अपने वरिष्ठ (वरिष्ठ) अधिकारी से कहा जाए और मामले पर उनका मार्गदर्शन मांगा जाए।
- (c) महिला को उक्त पद पर नियुक्त कर दिया जाए क्योंकि यह नियुक्ति अनुकंपा के आधार पर है।

अन्य संभावित विकल्पों का सुझाव भी दीजिए।

इनमें से प्रत्येक विकल्प का मूल्यांकन कीजिए एवं कारण बताते हुए सर्वोत्तम कार्यवाही का सुझाव दीजिए।

Actors involved:

- ① Me, SDM
- ② ASHA candidates
- ③ MLA
- ④ Lady that MLA wants at post
- ⑤ Lady's deceased husband (soldier)

Ethical dilemmas:-

- ① organizational ethics
- ② Personal ethics
- ③ compassion grounds vs merit
- ④ Nepotism possibility.
- ⑤ Right vs right (as lady is eligible).

(a) ignoring MLA's proceeding with selection might solve organizational integrity & merit dilemma as deserving candidate will get job but this ignores

compassionate grounds given
in situation.

• Also, I might be removed
from selection process itself.
Here I am not worried about
my job, but on removal
I would be able to find nepotism
if it is there.

(b) Speaking to superior &
seeking guidance is good
as it follows organizational
principles but if superior
says to do as per MLA, then
no dilemma will be addressed
& merit of other candidate may
get defeated along with nepotism
perpetualization in organisation.

(c) • Appointing lady on compassion grounds without inquiring about reality of his husband does not fulfill any purpose.

- It may breed nepotism.
- It may defeat merit of more deserving candidate.
- Against personal & organizational values.
- MLA's intentions remain unchecked.

other option / best course :-

① Internal inquiry of Lady's husband's death & if he was a soldier or not. Check nepotism angle between MLA-Lady.

② If lady proven true, check if

compassion grounds still hold true or not.

③ Interview process cannot be diverted to plain appointment of Lady. So interview process will take place as scheduled keeping my superior in confidence

④ After considering all interviews, given that lady holds merit, if there exists highest merit then she will be given job.

⑤ If her merit & compassion grounds together outweigh all other candidates then she will be given job.

⑥ If her merit + compassion grounds together are outweighed by some other candidate then other candidate gets job.

⑦ Still the lady can be given "preference" for some other role or as assistant to appointed Asst as she holds merit.

This solves organizational dilemma of merit, compassion grounds & merit are correctly weighed and nepotism angle is checked by internal inquiry. Hence it addresses all dilemmas & actors & maintains organizational integrity.

11. You are officer-in-charge of a very important railway junction, which is an artery of trade and commerce. A peasant disturbance has been brewing in your district for the past few weeks. Their discussions with the political and district leadership has borne no fruit and it has come to the stage that now they are protesting by organizing a sit-in on the railway tracks near the station. They have thereby succeeded in blocking movement of all trains. This disruption is causing significant harassment for the passengers waiting at the platform as well.

(a) What will be your course of immediate action?

(b) How can emotional intelligence act as a tool in handling this issue?

(c) What steps will you take so that such incidents are not repeated in the future?

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आप एक अति महत्वपूर्ण रेलवे जंक्शन के प्रभारी अधिकारी हैं। यह रेलवे जंक्शन व्यापार और वाणिज्य का एक मार्ग है। आपके जिले में पिछले कुछ सप्ताह में कृषक-अशांति की परिस्थितियाँ बनती जा रही हैं। राजनीतिक और जिले के (स्थानीय) नेताओं के साथ किसानों की वार्ता का कोई परिणाम नहीं निकला है और यह अशांति एक ऐसी अवस्था में पहुँच गई है कि अब वे स्टेशन के निकट रेल की पटरियों पर धरने का आयोजन कर विरोध प्रदर्शन कर रहे हैं। इस प्रकार वे सभी ट्रेनों के संचालन को बाधित करने में सफल हो गए हैं। इस व्यवधान के कारण प्लेटफार्म पर प्रतीक्षारत यात्रियों को भी काफी परेशानी का सामना करना पड़ रहा है।

(a) आपकी तात्कालिक कार्यवाही क्या होगी?

(b) भावनात्मक बुद्धिमत्ता इस मुद्दे से निपटने हेतु एक साधन का कार्य कैसे कर सकती है?

(c) भविष्य में ऐसी घटनाओं की पुनरावृत्ति रोकने के लिए आप कौन-से कदम उठाएंगे?

Actors Involved

- ① Me (railway junction officers)
- ② Peasants
- ③ Political / district leadership
- ④ Passengers / trade / commerce.

Ethical dilemmas:-

- ① Affect on trade/ commerce
- ② Passengers affected
- ③ Protest can turn violent
(loss of life/ property)
- ④ Failure of political/district leadership.
- ⑤ Emotions are high.

(a) course of immediate action:-

- ① As political/district leaders have already tried, I will personally talk to peasants and hear their issues.
- ② given that it is not a dry general role, I will involve DM & related teams.
- ③ If talks succeed then tracks can be cleared on

immediate affect.

④ Use of force in other case shall not be first resort.

Emotional intelligence shall be used, incentives, fear appeals etc, for clearing tracks.

⑤ Use of force, minimal & required, shall be used as last resort to clear track so that dilemmas of actors involved (trade, commerce, passengers) are solved.

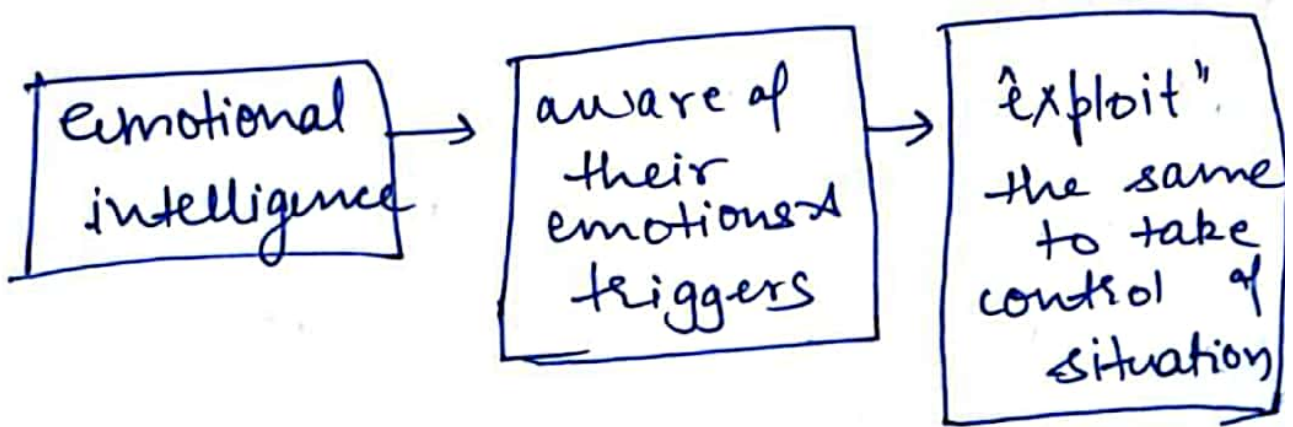
⑥ Talks with peasants & finding quick solution to their concerns

(b) Emotional intelligence can be used here :-

- ① By being aware of emotions of peasants & managing them as per Goleman's model
- ② Empathising with peasants will build trust & help in Rack clearance.
- ③ Social skills of me as junction officers & other teams can build credibility, change of peasants' attitude via persuasion & influence in atmosphere of free choice.
- ④ As mentioned, if they don't agree than Dillard's fear appeals can be used to change

their stand.

⑤ At last, just a heavy parade by police can be used as emotional intelligence tool; without actually resorting to even mild lathi charge.



(C) Steps to ensure incidents are not repeated:-

① As given, disturbance was brewing up for few weeks. Intelligence should work to identify such stresses & administration should be proactive.

- ② setting SOPs against occupance of tracks in future with strict punitive punishments will counter such repeats.
- ③ Ensuring safety of passengers, ~~alternate~~ alternate routes for trade is important.
- ④ work with political Adistrict leadership to ensure tracks are not blocked.
- ⑤ outside my duty, ensuring compassion grounds, responsive -ness, welfare approach pro peasants is important to prevent such acts in future.

15. You are the CEO of a film production company. Your company is now relying on its forthcoming movie, which is about to be released shortly. The movie has a cast of reliable actors and even before its release, trade pundits have predicted that the movie will be a hit.

However, you face a conundrum as one of the actors in the movie is a citizen of a neighbouring country with which relations have been disturbed and a war like situation exists. While the political atmosphere was different when the movie was being filmed, now there is a widespread public demand, with a local political party at the forefront, for replacing the actor from the movie or a ban on the release of the movie itself, if the actor is not replaced.

While you are aware of the mood of the nation and the public repercussions of releasing the movie in its present form, you also know that it is not feasible to replace him at this stage as he has a substantial role in the movie. There is also a section in the film fraternity that does not want you to compromise in the wake of threat by the local party as it compromises freedom of speech and expression as well as artistic creativity

(a) What are the options available to you?

(b) Evaluate each of the options and state their merits and demerits.

(c) What course of action would you take and why?

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आप एक फिल्म निर्माण कम्पनी में मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (CEO) हैं। यह कम्पनी कुछ समय में वित्तीय रूप में अलगा प्रदर्शन नहीं कर रही है। आपकी कम्पनी अब अपनी आगामी फिल्म पर निर्भर है। यह फिल्म शीघ्र ही ग्लोबल (प्रदर्शित) होने वाली है। इस फिल्म में विश्वव्यापी अभिनेताओं को लिया गया है। इस फिल्म के ग्लोबल होने के पूर्व ही व्यापार-पंडितों ने अनुमान लगा लिया है कि यह फिल्म हिट होगी।

हालांकि, आप एक विचित्र परिस्थिति का सामना कर रहे हैं, क्योंकि फिल्म में सम्मिलित एक अभिनेता एक ऐसे पड़ोसी देश का नागरिक है जिसके साथ संबंध बिगड़ गए हैं और युद्ध जैसी स्थिति बनी हुयी है। हालांकि जब फिल्म को फिल्माया जा रहा था तब राजनीतिक माहौल भिन्न था। अब स्थानीय राजनीतिक पार्टी के नेतृत्व में, उस अभिनेता को प्रतिस्थापित करने या अभिनेता को प्रतिस्थापित न करने पर फिल्म ग्लोबल होने पर ही प्रतिबंध लगाये जाने के संबंध में जनता में व्यापक स्तर पर मांग उठ रही है।

अब जबकि आप देश की मनोदशा एवं फिल्म को उसके वर्तमान स्वरूप में जारी करने में जनता में होने वाली प्रतिक्रियाओं में अवगत हैं, किन्तु साथ ही आप यह भी जानते हैं कि फिल्म की इस अवस्था में उस अभिनेता को प्रतिस्थापित करना व्यवहार्य नहीं है क्योंकि फिल्म में उसकी पर्याप्त भूमिका है। सिनेमा जगत में एक बर्ग ऐसा भी है जो नहीं चाहता कि आप स्थानीय पार्टी की धमकियों को देखते हुए समझौता करें, क्योंकि यह वाक् एवं अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता और साथ ही कलात्मक रचनात्मकता में भी समझौता होगा।

(a) आपको कौन-से विकल्प उपलब्ध हैं?

(b) प्रत्येक विकल्प का मूल्यांकन कीजिए और उसके गुणों और अवगुणों को बताइए।

(c) आप कौन-सी कार्यवाही का अनुसरण करेंगे और क्यों?

- ① Me, CEO of film company
- ② Movie (to be released soon)
- ③ Actors (national + neighbouring country)
- ④ Public + local political party
- ⑤ Film fraternity

Ethical dilemmas:

- ① Economic interests vs national interests (was like situation with actor's country)
- ② Movie already completed
- ③ Public mood
- ④ Political party threat
- ⑤ Freedom of speech, expression, creativity

(a) Options available are:-

- ① Ban the movie as per demand
- ② Remove Actor's role
- ③ Release the movie as it is.

④ Delay the release.

⑤ Release movie taking various stakeholders in confidence.

(b) ① Banning movie

Demerit :

- hurts freedom of expression
- hurts creativity
- condition at time of casting were different
- economic interests of my company.

Merit : Does not hold any larger good as it just gives vent to demands of public & politics without going into merit of same.

② Remove Actor

Demerit :

- movie already completed
- economic interests jeopardized.

- other dilemmas remain as such.

Merit :- Again it holds no true merit as actor was casted when relation between nations were different as given in case study.

It serves purpose of only settling down public & local party.

③ Release movie as it is

Demerit :

- completely ignores national interests
- can lead to riot like situation given mood of nation.
- can give vent to nefarious activities against movie
- economic interest still might get hurt.

Merit : • upholds fraternity's unity,

- Merit :-
- lets mood get normal
 - ~~solves~~ ^{might} economic interest
 - expression/ creativity rights remain.

- Demerit :
- Might serve no purpose at all
 - May fuel even more anger
 - can hurt economic interests.

course of action :-

- ① Take various stakeholders into consideration to solve "emotional" issue
- ② Try to address public concern by "promises" like

actors from such country will
not be wasted in future till
situation is not normal.

- ③ Ensure that the concerned actor is not called for any promotional event.
- ④ Role can be minimized by removing songs or editing scenes wherever possible. It is a normal practice otherwise as well.
- ⑤ Movie can be then delayed by a week or two to let the situation cool down.

This solves creativity & freedom dilemma along with national-economic interests. Public & party is taken in confidence making action holistic.