



Mains Practice Question

Case Studies

As the officer entrusted with overseeing environmental compliance in the region, you have encountered a complex challenge stemming from numerous small and medium industries holding environmental clearance certificates while continuing to pollute air, water, and soil, resulting in adverse health effects on the local population.

Upon discovering the widespread violations, you took decisive action by issuing notices to all industrial units to apply for fresh environmental clearance. However, your efforts were met with resistance from some industrial stakeholders, vested interest groups, and local politicians. Additionally, there was apprehension among workers about potential job loss and economic insecurity.

Despite pleas from industry owners highlighting potential financial losses and product shortages, and appeals from labor unions to avoid closure, you remained steadfast in your commitment to environmental protection. This stance, however, exposed you to threats from unidentified sources.

In the face of adversity, you found support from colleagues advocating for uncompromising environmental compliance and local NGOs calling for the immediate closure of polluting units.

- (a) What are the ethical issues involved in this case?
- (b) Based on the above case study, what are the options available to you?
- (c) What type of mechanism would you suggest to ensure environmental compliance?

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Answer will be published shortly.

PDF Reference URL: <https://www.drishtiias.com/mains-practice-question/question-8175/pnt>