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NOTE: Please remember that following '*answers*' are **NOT** '*model answers*'. They are **NOT** synopsis too if we go by definition of the term. What we are providing is content that both meets demand of the question and at the same time gives you extra points in the form of background information.

GS PAPER - IV**Topic: Ethics in human actions****Q) Analyse John Rawls's concept of social justice in the Indian context. (150 Words)****CSE Mains – 2016. GS-IV**

John Rawls in his "Theory of Justice" holds that for justice to be truly just, everyone must be accorded same rights under the law. If everyone were to be stripped off of their privileges and social status, and made entirely equal, then the only logical choice is to pick a system that treats people equally, regardless of their gender, religion, caste, race and so on.

He speaks about "Veil of Ignorance" - If no one could know what place he or she would occupy in the society being formed, what arrangement of the society would a rational person choose? Rawls maintains that the choice would be for a social structure that would best benefit the unknowing chooser if she or he happened to end up in the least desirable position.

His theory has huge relevance for Indian society, pervaded as it is by deprivations and discrimination that are ridiculously appalling. For example if we would think about whether to allow gender discrimination in our society from the original position - that is a position where we ourselves don't know our gender - then we will not allow it, because we may land up being female once the veil of ignorance is lifted.

Similarly, from the "original position", we would want a society where there are no income inequalities, there are no caste based discriminations and where there is equality of opportunities for all sections of population irrespective of social status, economic might, kinship ties and political clout.

The application of the concept can be seen practically in steps in providing reservation to socially backward classes in education and government employment, providing food security to the needy, provision of subsidies to farmers, MGNREGA to provide jobs for lakhs of unemployed, providing a say to tribals in their development through forest rights act, PESA and several such measures.

Evidently, application of rawlsian principles of justice is imperative for an diverse society, like India, developed to accommodate the minorities and weaker section in to the social contract system. Its application will help in achieving an inclusive and an egalitarian society.

Q) Explain how ethics contributes to social and human well-being. (150 Words)**CSE Mains 2016 – GS IV**

Ethics denotes moral principles which governs a person's behaviour and conduct, based on which he decides what is right or wrong, good or bad, fair or unfair, just or unjust. Society, contributes to ethics by defining the norms and values for the citizens, which become part of the societal ethics.

Ethics and social well-being:

Ethics acts as a binding force and promotes mutual trust, helps in maintaining the social order in the society. For example- according to social ethics, crimes like rape, theft, etc are not acceptable, thus it puts moral sanction against such things and acts as deterrent for people to indulge in such practices.

Ethics forms basis of egalitarian society and imbibes the feeling of moral responsibility to eliminate social evils- poverty, dowry, etc Philanthropists and NGOs pay tribute to society through their different kinds of social works. There are various examples to prove it – Kailash Styarthi got Nobel Prize for his efforts for the welfare of children. Another example of an IIT professor Alok Sagar, who has contributed his 30 years of life in tribal belt for education & upliftment of tribal in Betul district of MP – guides and inspires other people to follow their work and thus maintaining the societal ethics.

Ethics and human well-being:

Growing materialistic needs like money, status, increasing cut throat competition, jealousy, corruption, rivalry etc are causing mental stress & loneliness. Ethics helps an individual in shaping their personality & provides them enough strength to face and fight the above mentioned challenges.

Ethics checks the immoral & illegal acts of an individual and guides them towards the right path by equipping them in decision making. It helps an individual to differentiate between need & greed and thus checks ethical erosion and ethical dilemmas.

Ethics also helps an individual in developing their emotional intelligence. For instance, environmental ethics asks an individual to reduce their carbon footprint and maintain balance with the nature. Thus, following environmental ethics, an individual develops empathy towards plants and animals, they become self-conscious of their activities and their impact on the nature. It helps them in developing sensitivity for those who are suffering due to climate change.

Following personal ethics and value system, an individual feels happy and satisfied, which ultimately contributes to human well-being.

The society can be a better place to live in, if every human guides themselves as per the societal and personal by the ethical standards. Thus, at an individual level, we should initiate and aspire to meet the objectives of well beings and we must adhere to Gandhiji's thoughts: Be the change you want to see in the others.

Q) Examine the legal and ethical issues related to how we deal with wild animals which venture into human-dominated landscapes. (150 Words)**The Hindu**

Animals are the species, just like humans, who equally own the earth. They have full right to freely roam on the surface of the earth and that too in the face of their habitat loss. But, humans who considers themselves as more superior species, have restricted the free flow of animals because of their own needs and benefits, which violates the animal rights as well the legal protection they have been awarded.

The recent killings of leopard in Indian village, highlights the same legal and ethical issues involved in how deal with wild animals which ventures into human dominated landscapes.

Legal issues involved :-

The recent killing of leopard, which is listed in Schedule I of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, highlights how the environmental laws are being violated in India. This is due to weak implementation and poor awareness about such laws.

As per the law, only if the wild animal becomes a danger to human life or is diseased or disabled beyond recovery can it be allowed to be captured or killed by the competent authority, the Chief Wildlife Warden of the State. This provision is applicable to wild animals which includes leopards. Mere apprehension or fear that a wild animal could endanger human life is not a ground for capture or killing.

Ethical issues involved :

In one of the ruling by Supreme court, made its views public about the animal rights – “animal has also honour and dignity which cannot be arbitrarily deprived of and its rights and privacy have to be respected and protected from unlawful attacks”. Even if guide ourselves with this view, we should respect the animal rights as we do for human rights. And, here comes the role of ethics, when human should respect other species who share the earth with them. We should know, how we are harming them and what should not do.

Encounter killings of leopards (besides raising serious issues of animal rights) have also serious consequences on the population of wild animals, which are already threatened by poaching and habitat loss. Thus, we are not just eliminating an individual animal or two, we are pushing an entire species closer to extinction. This is against the environmental ethics and will disturb the environmental balance by threatening the biodiversity.

Humans must recognise and accept that wild animals are not just born free, they have the right to remain free, the right to move freely, and the right of equal protection of the law irrespective of whether they are in a protected area or outside. Indian should follow their fundamental duty as mentioned under Article 51-A (g), which talks about protecting the wild life too, thus showing compassion and empathy towards them.

Topic: Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration

Q) Define conflict of interest. Does India need separate law to check, prevent and punish public officials involved in conflict of interest cases? Critically examine. (200 Words)

EPW

Conflict of interest is a conflict between personal interest and official duties. It is also conflict between various duties to perform, for example as RBI struggles with debt management and inflation control. The conflict of interest is dealt by the variety of responses like avoiding the situation, disclosing the clear picture, stepping out of the decision making process etc.

Relating it with the current, conflict of interest will be faced by Donald trump, as the president of USA and his substantial business interests in real estate ventures across the world, including his own country. Like this, conflict of interest is faced by ministers, civil servants, etc. in daily life. Check on this can be internal- guided by personal ethics and value system and also through external checks - following organisational ethics, code of conduct, rules & regulations, legislative measures, strong vigilance and so on.

Thus, a separate law in India to check, prevent and punish public officials involved in conflict of interest will have mixed result. On one side it will genuinely, act as deterrent for public officials to get involved in such practices. But, on the other side chances are there that it might punish/ harass the honest officials.

This harassment can be seen with respect to Prevention of corruption act. The act does not make any distinction between bonafide and malafide mistakes. A civil servant may undervalue an asset not deliberately rather unknowingly. This will give a pecuniary advantage to the buyer of the asset though the civil servant didn't intend to give any. If the civil servant is punished for giving undue advantage to the buyer, it will lead to demoralisation and bureaucratic inertia.

Though there are guidelines for public officials against enjoying the office of profit, Prevention of corruption Act, executive orders from PM to its ministers and civil servants. But, strict implementation, existing loopholes, influence of personalities, etc have been not able to check effectively the conflict of interest.

In the past, it was seen that in case of 2G scam, ministers were favouring their relatives, friends, and benefiting their own companies. In these contexts, such laws become very necessary to prevent nepotism and favouritism by public officials, and to bring in the necessary transparency and accountability in the system. It will be helpful in bridging the trust deficit of citizens towards the government and integrity of the organisation would be also maintained.

Thus, India should go for legislating such law being inspired by the developed and developing countries, which have enacted laws against Conflict of Interest -including the US, Canada, France, Bosnia, Croatia and Turkey.

However, a separate law is desirable, but alone it cannot prevent the conflict of interest. The spirit of public service needs to be inculcated and practiced by the public officials. Private interests of the public officials should never come into the conflict with their public duties and obligations. They should remain committed to the constructional duties and their responsibility towards the citizens. They should work with integrity showing compassion and empathy especially towards the weaker sections of the society.

Q) Differentiate between wisdom and knowledge. For a public servant, which one of these two is more important? Justify. (150 Words)

General

Knowledge means to acquire information through means of study, investigation, research etc, whereas Wisdom is the application of Knowledge and experience to explore truth. Wisdom will provide greater insight about relationship, thereby increasing our Emotional intelligence.

For a public servant both is necessary in appropriate amount, but still the importance of wisdom is more because:

- 1) Decision-Making: Wisdom will help us in taking right decision considering all stake holders especially in times of dilemmas.
- 2) Understanding People: It will also provide emotions like empathy, mutual respect and cooperation which will help us in understanding our senior, junior and co-workers in a dignified manner.
- 3) Team work: Many times Public servant have to work in team work to achieve something. Here also wisdom will provide us the necessary sensitivity and management skills to increase the potential of team.
- 4) Policies/Priorities: An officer having wisdom will prioritize his/her priorities according to demand of people in a rational manner. EX: Opening Tennis court in a region is good for health of people, but a person having wisdom will firstly analyze need of tennis court. He will prioritize his policies to firstly ensure basic facilities like education, food etc before moving further.
- 5) Increasing Awareness in People: Similarly a person having wisdom will know what to say to people through discussions or debates to ensure their analytical development. EX: Giving reason for demonetization or importance of women in country's development.

Knowledge provides us the necessary set of information but it is wisdom which helps us in differentiating between true and false, which forms the basic of our competency.

Q) Despite severe hardships faced by the poor, there is an overwhelming support to demonetization by the public. Explain this phenomenon on the basis ethics and morality. Do you think such support would persist for long time? Explain. (200 Words)

Livemint

Demonetization is a process of cancelling the legal tender of a particular currency/promissory note. Despite of sufferings due to the contraction of 86% of cash in value from the system, people have supported demonetization due to:

1) Ethical reasons:

- a) Adam Smith has highlighted the fundamental phenomenon of economy as "trust". In this case, the people trusted the scheme as a Bold move.
- b) The step is considered with a "faith" as a "short term pain & long term gain" by public.
- c) The ethical acceptance of this move as a subordinate to formation of SIT (2014), Income declaration scheme (2016) and ongoing International relations in line with tax heaven & double tax agreements.

2) Morality:

- a) People have shown their moral responsibility in hope of a gradual shift towards cashless economy and transparency, reduction of stone pelting incidence in Kashmir and conflicts cases in Red corridor region.

b) Introduction of a new scheme - Garib Kalyan Yojana might have further enhanced the support from lower income group.

I think the support will persist for a long time if we can cope up with the ongoing productivity shocks in agriculture sector and temporary demand shocks due to liquidity crisis. Further, the anticipation of a cashless society, decline in interest rates and the hope of good budget coupled with GST can enhance the time duration of this overwhelming support.

Q) Recently, the President elect of USA nominated Rex Tillerson, Chief Executive of the oil and gas conglomerate ExxonMobil, to the post of Secretary of State. What ethical issues does this nomination give rise to? Examine. (150 Words)

The Hindu

The nomination of Rex Tillerson, chief executive of oil and gas conglomerate, by president elect Trump who himself is a business giant brings many ethical issues as discussed below: -

- **Conflict of Interest** - These businessman who are going to represent the public office in future have also their private business running. Thus, it creates conflict of interest and in future they might give preference to their private interest over public interests.
- **Misuse of power** - Elite and business class occupying key executive posts without any expertise in political morality might give rise to nepotism and favouritism leading to misallocation of resources. Without any check and balance, lobbying might affect the nation's interest.
- **Lack of Integrity** - In the past, in Nigeria, Rex's company has faced the charges of lack of transparency in dealing with government. Based on those experiences, apprehension are there that, he might even sign some covert deals with other countries or people to serve their interest, which will erode the institutional integrity.
- **Improving diplomatic relations and world order**- Mr. Tillerson's is known to have good relation with Russia, thus it is expected that there would thaw in Washington-Moscow diplomatic ties. It will help both the super powers in improving their diplomatic relations, which in turn will help in peace and harmony in the world. Improved relations would put moral responsibility on both the nations for nuclear disarmament, cooperation in managing the global problems like- climate change, terrorism, etc.

Thus, it is needed that Rex should show his commitment, duty, integrity towards the office and citizens of USA. It is his moral responsibility to respond to the apprehensions rising against his choice for the post by Trump, thus he should show his leadership skills and come forward to build the trust with people. However, since USA is a matured democracy, it would be difficult for the executive to bypass the scrutiny of the US congress and the Supreme court.

Q) Discuss the Public Services Code as recommended by the 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission. (150 Words)

CSE Mains 2016 – GS IV

The 2nd Administrative Reform commission was constituted to recommend suggestion for refurbishing the administration and as per the commission the Public service code needs to be followed to imbibe discipline and commitment in the Public servant for better Policy making and service delivery.

The Public service code is guided by the principles of "Integrity", Objectivity, Accountability, Devotion to Duty and exemplary behaviour.

These principles are essential because it would help the Public servant regard the work assigned to him with utmost respect and would drive him or her to complete the duty to the best of his or her ability

Such codes will act as a deterrence to avoid misuse of official position or using public office for one's self interest. It will act as an instrument of good governance. It will help in ensuring that a public servant performs her duties with

empathy, love and compassion towards the needy, deprived and the downtrodden without any prejudices and discrimination on basis of religion, gender, caste, race and other factors.

Such values will help in socio-economic development in an inclusive and sustainable manner and thus the development of an egalitarian society. It will also help in professional and personal growth and leadership development among public servants which will help in rapid growth and progress of the country.

Q) Why should impartiality and non-partisanship be considered as foundational values in public services, especially in the present day socio-political context? Illustrate your answer with examples. (150 words)

CSE Mains 2016 GS-IV

Public service is a service which is provided by government to people living within its jurisdiction, either directly or by financing provision of services. Through this, certain services should be available to all, regardless of income or physical ability. In countries like India, where government performs the welfare role – providing services from womb to tomb- it becomes very crucial for the government to be fair, transparent and accountable towards the citizens.

Thus being partial or favouring or working with any prejudice towards any particular person/ organisation/ group people defeats the very purpose of the public service. If bureaucrats start practising partisan attitude, they do not remain value neutral, going against the organisation ethics and values. Hence, both – impartiality and non-partisanship are considered as foundational values of the public services.

Why impartiality and non-partisanship are considered foundational values in present socio-political context?

Due to increase in regional political, coalition form of government and factors like anti-incumbency, political parties are trying to influence a particular set of voters. Thus they adopt a partial attitude, favouring any particular caste or community. They try to influence the voters through bribery, free-bees, unholy nexus with corporates, etc. This leads to favouritism, nepotism and degrades the values of equality and honesty which is required for public service.

Also, in above mentioned political setup, bureaucracy should remain neutral and should not show partisan attitude. If they start doing it, it reflects moral degradation, they start compromising their values and principles for their own benefit. They start misusing their seat of authority and power, by misallocating the valuable resources of their country. And in this process, the poor people suffer the most due to corruption and inefficient delivery of services. For example- It was found that in 2G scams, commonwealth games scam, coal gate scam, NRHM scam of UP, etc these values were compromised due to unholy nexus of Bureaucrats-politicians-corporates and they wasted the crucial and scarce resources of the country.

Thus the values of impartiality and non-partisanship are very much needed to maintain the trust of the people in the government, especially for a diverse country like India, where diversity of caste, class, religion, region, gender is widespread. They are also needed to maintain the constitutional spirit of right to Equality and ideals of a just society in DPSP.

These values help the public servants in performing their duty with commitment, integrity, compassion and empathy. Even if they get harassed by their seniors, colleagues, political executives, they try to follow these values with their value system. For example, when a civil servant gets transferred frequently or gets threatened or other kinds of harassment, they face it bravely because of their personal ethical values and principle. Thus, the values of impartiality and non-partisanship help the civil servant in easing of pressure, without showing any affinity or discrimination against any one.

Both qualities form basis for good governance and promote the virtue of egalitarian society based on social economic & political justice.

Q) “Max Weber said that it is not wise to apply to public administration the sort of moral and ethical norms we apply to matters of personal conscience. It is important to realize that the state bureaucracy might possess its own independent bureaucratic morality.” Critically analyse this statement. (150 words)

CSE Mains 2016 GS-IV

Max Weber felt that bureaucracy should be a goal-oriented organization, designed according to rational principle. According to him, bureaucrats should be guided by explicit rules and responsibilities which should override moral and ethical norms of personal conscience.

For example, if a public servant is allowed to select contractor for a road construction, he might resort to bribe taking and favour certain inefficient contractor who pay him bribes. So, he should only act as a facilitator while the contractor is selected through bidding. Hence, the bureaucrats should not use discretion in public administration and their actions should be guided by standard operating procedures set by political executives like – Code of conduct & code of ethics. Such bureaucratic morality would include hierarchy, written rules and standard operating procedures instead of personal morality.

However, from Indian perspective, the Weberian notion of mechanical bureaucracy won't help in achieving rapid socio-economic change. Weber's theory is suitable for developed countries like Germany, which require only status-quo. However, developing countries like India need to undertake socio-economic changes. And for this, what's imperative is values/ethics in administration such as empathy, equity, compassion, integrity, non-partisanship, impartiality, etc.

For example, an old woman without a valid document may not get her Rs.1000 notes exchanged under the Weberian dictum; on the other hand, there'll be special provisions like positive discrimination to help the vulnerable sections of society under the 'Development Bureaucracy.'

Personal conscience is indispensable in personal life as well as bureaucracy. However, as Weber said, certain limitations must be laid on discretion of bureaucracy so that they do not misuse their power and could avoid ethical erosion and conflict of interest.

Topic: Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators;

Q) Discuss Mahatma Gandhi's concept of seven sins. (150 Words)

GS-4, UPSC Mains 2016

Gandhi listed SEVEN SINS which every human should abstain from. These are,

- 1) Wealth without Work : It depicts making wealth by UNFAIR means, by taking short cuts. "Black Money" is a case in point.
- 2) Pleasure without Conscience : Happiness that is earned at the expense of others is no less than a sin. A person's SELFISHNESS forces him to neglect the interests of others.
- 3) Knowledge without character : Bruce Lee said, "Knowledge will give you power. Character gives you respect." Character imbibes qualities of INTEGRITY and HONESTY in a knowledgeable person. This sin can make a person like Osama Bin Laden and knowledge with character can make him like Dr. Kalam.
- 4) Business without morality : This sin can make many suffer. Poor working conditions, adulteration, lack of security are examples of this sin.
- 5) Science without humanity : Pakistan has nukes but the socio-economic conditions of the nation are worsening with time.
- 6) Religion without sacrifice : Religion today has been reduced to mere practices and rituals. Not bringing the religious teachings of COMPASSION, AFFECTION and BROTHERHOOD in our lives is a sin.

7) Politics without principle : The advent of money and muscle power, lack of conviction and principles in politics is a sin.

The idea of "welfare state" can come true when Gandhi's vision be incorporated in all spheres of life.

Topic: Laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance;

Q) Differentiate between intuition, reason, conscience and truth. For an administrator, which of these matter most when it comes to helping the poor? Justify. (150 Words)

[Livemint](#)

Intuition is the ability to understand something instinctively without the need for conscious reasoning, proof or evidence.

Reason is the ability to link facts, evidences and deriving one idea to another idea. It establishes relation between cause and effect, falsehood and truth and what is good and what is bad.

Conscience is the ability of oneself to make moral judgement from his/her values. It's a kind of inner voice that we hear when we tend to make a mistake in our life.

Mahatma Gandhi says "There is a higher court than courts of justice and that is the court of conscience. It supersedes all other courts"

In the end, **truth** is unchanging fact or reality.

For example, there is an accident on Delhi-Jaipur highway and one person is seriously injured. Here, the accident is the truth and another person arrives there and start thinking about the possibility of him saving the injured person life is his intuition. He starts making calculation about the distance of hospital and traffic he would face is his reasons. In the end, he decides to take the injured person to hospital is his conscience which compels him to make moral decision.

For an administer, all these four abilities are important to make decision and policies however, on top of all, **She should have the virtue of conscience which makes her EMPATHEIC towards the needs of poor people, MORALILY in her action, and bring INTEGRITY AND PROBILTIY in her administration.**

Topic: Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.

Q) The Supreme Court has ruled that the national anthem must be played in cinema halls across the country before a film is screened, and everyone present must stand to pay respect. Do you think patriotism could be inculcated by forcing these orders on citizens? What are the ethical issues involved in this order? Critically examine. (200 Words)

[The Hindu](#)

[The Indian Express](#)

"Patriotism is supporting your country all the time and your government when it deserves it."
— Mark Twain

Patriotism is the feeling of loving your country more than any others and being proud of it. Basically it is an emotional attachment to a nation which an individual recognizes as their homeland. This attachment, also known as national feeling or national pride, can be viewed in terms of different features relating to one's own nation, including ethnic, cultural, political or historical aspects. Supreme Court has ordered to be play National anthem in all the cinema halls

before film screening with people standing to show respect towards national anthem. When such directives are forced upon the citizens, there would be resistance.

National anthem and national symbols usually have a deep impact on people's psychology and fosters feeling of "Unity in diversity". Such symbolic representations encourage spirit of brotherhood, love, compassion and national integration among citizens. But, patriotism cannot be aroused among people, through forced directives.

Respect or honour is subject to the one's internal conscience. Government should make the nation better place to live and let citizen feel proud to be part of it.

Ethical Issues:

Such orders coming from the highest court is an example of Judicial overreach. This order transgresses into the personal liberty of the citizens. This move is a shot in the arm for moral policing groups to resort to violent methods to force citizens to show their respect to the nation, thereby questioning their integrity as noticeable from a recent incident in a theatre in Maharashtra.

Because this is an order from the Supreme Court, it gives legitimacy to other similar measures that could be adopted by governments and fringe groups to force a particular type of nationalism on citizens.

Moreover, it raises a question that why not singing national anthem be made compulsory before each court proceedings or during every legislative meetings. This hypocrisy might make citizens become cynical and lose trust in the highest court itself.

Q) Anger is a harmful negative emotion. It is injurious to both personal life and work life.

a) Discuss how it leads to negative emotions and undesirable behaviors.

b) How can hit be managed and controlled?

CSE Mains 2016 GS-IV

a) Anger is a negative emotion which is an outcome when a person is unable to control the emotions when he or she sees or hears something that is unpleasant according to his or her ideas, thought process and conscience. If it is not controlled, it harms not only the individual but also the environment and people around them. It causes flow of negativity in both personal and professional life.

Personal life:

An inappropriate expression of anger by father on child might permanently breed fear in the mind of the child, or this might push child into depression. Violent expression of anger might damage mental health of victims. In a family setup, anger, if expressed improperly, will create an environment of hostility between members and might damage relationships. Anger triggers more anger and leads to violent reactions, especially in group situations. Anger might also result in loss of property or lives. The person who is prone to anger will eventually face isolation and might slip into depression because of guilt and lack of forgiveness from victims.

Professional life:

An ill-tempered, inconsiderate and impatient manager or an employer will affect productivity at workplace if his/her anger is unjustified. Such attitude develops fear, hatred among employees and the ambience of the organization becomes very unhealthy and tensed. In this case, employees seldom develop loyalty towards their organisation. Customer or visitors will hesitate visiting such workplaces as demotivated workers will show lack of enthusiasm in addressing problems of their customers. Ultimately it impacts the employer's reputation and brings losses to company.

b) Anger can be managed by:

- Cultivating habit of listening to music, talking to friends about emotional instability.
- Developing emotional intelligence: this can be done by introspecting the causes of the anger, the reason for a sudden, ill-thought response and trying to address the cause.

- Practicing meditation, yoga can also help to manage emotions.
- Adopting a consequentialist approach: thinking about the consequences of reacting in anger. This can give a necessary warning to control and manage the anger
- Spirituality can also help manage emotions
- Engaging oneself in sports, pursuing hobbies like cooking, travelling can also help manage frustrations and consequent angered responses.
- Breathing and physical exercises, counting of numbers can help in immediate control of anger

Holding of anger is like drinking the poison & expecting another person to die. Thus, moral & spiritual awakening is important to increase the threshold of patience & tolerance to overcome anger.

Q) Our attitudes towards life, work, other people and society are generally shaped unconsciously by the family and the social surroundings in which we grow up. Some of these unconsciously acquired attitudes and values are often undesirable in the citizens of a modern democratic and egalitarian society.

a) Discuss such undesirable values prevalent in Today's educated Indians.

b) How can such undesirable attitudes be changed and socio-ethical values considered necessary in public services be cultivated in the aspiring and serving civil servants? (150 words)

CSE Mains 2016 GS-IV

The attitude of person is shaped by family and institutions like - schools, religion, society, etc. That is why, it said that the social environment plays very important role in shaping our personality and cognitive development of the children in growing age. Based on those learning, an individual responds to any particular situation- which can be desirable as well as undesirable.

In today's India there are many educated Indians, who based on their prejudices and stereotypes, still practise the untouchability and discrimination. This is not desirable, especially from those who are getting modern education, who are aware about constitutional provisions, such educated people lack the art of imbibing their learnings into their personality, which defeats the very purpose of education.

Like this many social evils are prevalent like - dowry, domestic violence, child marriage, child labour, manual scavenging, littering the public place, etc- which reflect that educated Indians are lacking the value of respecting women, equality, empathy and compassion towards fellow citizens, careless attitude towards environment and running away attitude from taking the responsibility.

Most of the educated people want to bring the changes but, they lack the courage to initiate due to - fear of criticism from society, fear of failure and risk averting attitude. They would blame others or government for each and every things.

When such educated people with self-centric attitude , lacking empathy , sense of responsibility and compassion reaches the higher accolades of the public services, they easily get attracted to corruption, favouritism, nepotism, partisanship - thus they derail the process of public welfare.

Such undesirable attitude can be changed with the help of internal as well as external check. Internal check comes from the personal value system, which is shaped by the family, education, learnings from fellow beings. But, in this diverse set up of India, the internal check varies from person to person.

External check is applied through rules, regulation, organisational code of conduct, and code of ethics, constitutional values, etc- which puts a constant check and pressure on an individual.

Public service values like empathy, integrity, honesty, probity, non-partisanship, impartiality , compassion , etc can be inculcated in aspiring and serving civil servant by introducing study of ethics, values, leaders (as being done in present by UPSC through GS-4 paper).

Also, the leaders & senior civil servants can be roped in to persuade aspirants and civil servants to bring in the necessary changes in attitude by sharing their experiences, motivational stories, etc. For example - Story of IAS officer Armstrong Pame, who was the first IAS from a Naga tribe. He constructed 100 km road without any assistance from the government, which shows his commitment and determination to serve the society.

Next comes the reward system, which is already being done- giving awards to civil servants on Civil services day. This acts as a motivation and inspires them to remain honest, dedicated and committed towards their duties and responsibilities.

Keeping in mind the rising trend of suicides, resignation in civil services due to stress and pressure of work, counselling at various levels of services is becoming necessary. The aspirants and serving officers should not get demotivated to join the services. It should be addressed through meditation for peace of mind, creating stress free environment at work place and cooperation of seniors and political executives.

Q) A fresh engineering graduate gets a job in a prestigious chemical industry. She likes the work. The salary is also good. However, after a few months she accidentally discovers that a highly toxic waste is being secretly discharged into a river nearby. This is causing health problems to the villagers downstream who depend on the river for their water needs. She is perturbed and mentions her concern to her colleagues who have been with the company for longer periods. They advise her to keep quiet as anyone who mentions the topic is summarily dismissed. She cannot risk losing her job as she is the sole bread-winner for her family and has to support her ailing parents and siblings. At first, she thinks that if her seniors are keeping quiet, why should she stick out her neck. But her conscience pricks her to do something to save the river and the people who depend upon it. At heart she feels that the advice of silence given by her friends is not correct though she cannot give reasons for it. She thinks you are a wise person and seeks your advice.

a) What arguments can you advance to show her that keeping quiet is not morally right?

b) What course of action would you advise her to adopt and why? (250 words)

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The case study presents ethical dilemma involving personal financial Security versus social attitude and morality. It also highlights issues of empathy and compassion towards marginalized; courage to take stand against something wrong.

Arguments for why keeping quiet is not morally correct:

- As an individual, she should follow her own conscience guided by her values and principles. She should not yield under anyone's influence or pressure. If she compromises with her value system, she won't remain peaceful at her mental level.
- Standing against something wrong which has potential to harm the society, shows her courage to fight, empathy towards weaker sections of the society- which are positive aspects of her personality. Thus, she should aspire for refining those positive traits rather than being submissive to a problem or challenge posed by the situation.
- Guided by environmental ethics, she has a desire to save the river and concern for its health. Thus, it becomes her moral responsibility to work in that direction as- river is a common resource and any degradation will affect everyone, including her. So, she should raise voice to find the solution.
- As an employee she should be committed towards her duty but she should not support any such work of the company which would bring a bad name and which would go against the social responsibility of the organisation.

Course of Action to be advised:-

- **Raise the concern with management and seniors** - It might prompt them to take action or they might ignore her concern. Doing this, she would be satisfied that she has performed her duty and if ignored she can proceed with next course of action. However, it is possible that due to her convincing and communicating skills, she would be able to persuade the officials.
- **Draw the attentions of NGOs and local administration to the problem-** Once company's authorities have been approached and no action have been taken, she can bring this issues with NGOs and local administration, remaining unanimous. It is possible that regulators like - NGT would issues guidelines to the company. And also, NGOs can create awareness and mobilise people to put pressure on the company.
- **Resign the company, join another job and act as an activist-** If both of the above options does not work in her favour, she need to take a daring step of resining her job to avoid harassment, pressure and compromise of her values. For financial security, she should get a job in another company. And at the same time she can act as an activist to highlight the issue with public. Here, she can take the help of social media, for example - Sofia Ashraf raised the issue of mercury poisoning of Kodaikanal lake by Unilever using her skills of rap singing and social media.

Thus, one should follow their conscience, especially when we are fighting for a cause which has far reaching effect on the society.

Topic: Social influence and persuasion.**Q) How could social influence and persuasion contribute to the success of Swatcch Bharath Abhyan? (150 Words)****CSE Mains 2016 – GS IV**

Persuasion and social influence, plays important role in bringing the behavioral and attitudinal changes in an individual and in society at large. It helps in motivating people to adapt the changes.

Swachh Bharat aims to end the wide-spread practice of open defecation, build more toilets and improve waste management, among other goals. Due to deep entrenched belief in minds of Indians, especially rural people regarding open defecation, persuasion, perseverance on part of policy makers and administrators to make villagers aware of cleanliness is very much needed. The success of Polio campaign is the glowing example, about what role persuasion and social influence can play, when celebrities like Amitabh Bachhan were roped in to make India polio free.

Gandhiji's views- "Be the change you want to see in the world" can be handy by involving celebrities, local popular personalities and national heroes. People need to be made aware about sanitation and its social, environmental and monetary benefits in the form of out of pocket expenditure on health.

Society influences a human being the most through societal constraints. Social influence in form of shaming defaulters, for example, in Gujarat in a school while having attendance one need to say "yes" if they have toilet at home, so out of shame many families started using toilets. Thus, schools could be used as mediums to teach children the importance of toilets who could influence their parents and hence the larger society in the villages

Involvement of religious leaders, since every religion emphasizes on it-“cleanliness is next to godliness”. Involving of NGOs, nukkad natak, social media outreach, civil societies for deeper penetration.

Any change can be brought by pursuing people and Swachh Bharat Abhyan is very ambitious project in making our public space clean, the role of people and society is its success is indispensable and irreplaceable.

Q) Do punishments deter more wrongdoing? Do punishments actually reform an offender? Discuss with suitable examples. (150 Words)

Livemint

Most legal systems across the world are retributive. The punishment centric approach to justice delivery assumes importance as it communicates to the offender that society condemns his act and to the victim that society disapproves of the offender's deed, thus a moral support to the victim. It reassures the larger society that it vindicates law and upholds several values that are dear to society.

Do punishments deter wrongdoing and reform the offender?

Punishments do deter wrongdoing in several cases. There are many examples to prove- it is because of punishment under Protection of civil rights act, 1955 that untouchability has decreased to large extent in India. Because of Domestic violence act, 1961 domestic violence decreased in India, because of Pre-Conception and Pre-Natal Diagnostics Act (PCPNDT), 1994 sex determination tests decreased.

Along with law acting as a deterrent force, education, empowerment and awareness has also helped in the decrease of wrong doings. However, in the above cases, it has not led to reform, for instance- even today, girl child is considered as burden and female foeticide is still being practices, even violating the law for it.

However, It has been observed that even after punishment, offender's behaviour hardly changes and the punishment does not help the offender in taking a new and right path. For instance, studies show that 66% of those in the US set free after serving a prison sentence will be rearrested within three years. This shows that punishment neither deters wrongdoing nor has it led to any reforms in the offender. That figure is close to 60% in the UK. Canada show that more than 30% of those who drive under the influence of alcohol are repeat offenders. The trend is similar in India as well. It is observed that people who are caught are quickly learning how not to get caught the next time, thus making mockery of criminal-justice system.

In the present system of punishments, the role of emotions, which can trigger behavioural change is being ignored. If we talk about capital punishment than it is fundamentally wrong as a cure for crime because it denies an individual a chance to change and reform. For example, Afroz Khan, serving a life term in the 2006 Aurangabad arms haul case, is emerging as the state's poster boy in its fight against radicalization.

Thus, an innovative alternative can be given a try. A person jumps a red signal because he wants to avoid the certain and immediate loss of having to wait for few seconds, or simply because most others are doing it. As a punishment, the reckless drivers should be asked to undertake a task that consumes a lot of time. Instead of monetary fines, more "reward killing" punishments could create stronger impact in the wrongdoer's brain. Studies have shown that public commitments given in writing, and made to significant people, can have a strong impact on one's behaviour. This should be tried too. Gandhiji said "Hate the sin, not the sinner."

Topic: Role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.

Q) Is patriotism more important than humanity? Justify. In your opinion, how patriotism should be inculcated among citizens? Comment. (150 Words)

The Hindu

The Indian Express

Patriotism is an emotional attachment to a nation which an individual recognizes as their homeland. This attachment, also known as national feeling or national pride, can be viewed in terms of different features relating to one's own nation, including ethnic, cultural, political or historical aspects. On the other hand humanity is the quality of showing benevolence towards other human beings.

Humanity is more important than patriotism because the former is guided by the empathy and compassion towards the human mankind irrespective of caste, sex, race, religion and nationality. Whereas patriotism as a feeling imbibes love for one's own nation, thus creating boundaries and dividing the human race on physical lines.

The views of leaders on varies, Tao Lin said- “Patriotism is the belief that all human are worth the same”. For Gandhiji both were same he said “I am patriotic because I am human and humane”.

Patriotism should be inculcated for maintaining unity and integrity of the nation, especially for countries like India, with vast diversity. It can be inculcated by spreading the message of the struggles faced by the countries in the past and taking pride in the sacrifices by our forefathers for the country. Such contributions can be propagated through articles, short films, skits, etc.

Role of institutions like family and school plays very important role in inculcating important values like humanity and patriotism among students, as they are the learning seats for children.

However, patriotism should come from the heart and should not be forced. It is the responsibility of government institution along with citizens to make their country a better place to live, so that future generations feel proud and thus patriotic about their countries.

Topic: Ethical dilemmas in public and private institutions

Q) Land needed for mining, dams and other large-scale projects is acquired mostly from Adivasis, hill dwellers and rural communities. The displaced persons are paid monetary compensation as per the legal provisions. However, the payment is often tardy. In any case, it cannot sustain the displaced families for long. These people do not possess marketable skills to engage in some other occupation. They end up as low paid migrant laborers. Moreover, their development goes to industries, industrialists and urban communities whereas the costs are passed on to these poor helpless people. This unjust distribution of costs and benefits is unethical.

Suppose you have been entrusted with the task of drafting a better compensation-cum-rehabilitation policy for such displaced persons, how would you approach the problem and what would be the main elements of your suggested policy? (250 words)

CSE Mains 2016 GS-IV

The above case presents a grim picture of plight of adivasis on one side and on the other side presents the cynical approach of those who ignore adivasis in the process of development. This also raises concern of vulnerability, harassment, getting trapped in the vicious cycle of poverty and fight for basic needs after displacement - food, shelter, etc. Thus an integrated rehabilitation cum compensation should be designed to address the above issues.

Approaching the problem-

- **Participatory approach** - Involving the local head of the adivasi community the whole process will help in understanding the concerns and veracity of the concern mentioned by them. It will also make them feel that they are important, thus they will cooperate.
- **Social impact assessment**- An expert's committee involving geologist, environmentalist, industrialist and tribal head would help in understanding the problems related to land, mining, dams, environmental issue (Environment impact assessment), compensation and development vs. tribal agenda, etc which can be discussed while making plans. An assessment prior hand will also help developing understanding about how to mobilise consensus.
- **Alternative arrangements**- Once the consensus would be reached, before displacing tribal people from their natural habitat, arrangement would be made to impart necessary skills, especially for those industries and projects which are coming up in the region- it will help in securing a livelihood to them. Along with it, a permanent arrangement would be made for basic necessities- food, shelter, sanitation, health, etc - so that they do not struggle for it in the future.

Main elements of the suggested policy would be -

- Exploring the vulnerabilities involved in dam construction, mining and accordingly working on social and environment impact assessment.

- Providing adequate time based compensation based on the LARR act and grievance redressal committee to ensure Fairness and Justice.
- Maintaining balance between tribal rights and development, thus legislation like- Forest rights Act, 2006, Forest Act 1980, National Forest Policy 1988, etc would be helpful in guiding.
- Imparting skill to them under Skill India program or their traditional work/ craft can be promoted at state and national level to earn remuneration.
- Rehabilitation if possible should be done to single locality that is agreed by displaced.
- Making use of CSR fund for the welfare of tribal's for example, money to be invested in preserving their culture, providing basic health and education facilities.

Development should be inclusive, pro-people and sustainable so that communities who are involved in it should feel empowered.

Q) Saraswati was a successful IT professional in USA. Moved by the patriotic sense of doing something for the country she returned to India. Together with some other like-minded friends, she formed an NGO to build a school for a poor rural community.

The objective of the school was to provide the best quality modern education at a nominal cost. She soon discovered that she has to seek permission from a number of Government agencies. The rules and procedures were quite confusing and cumbersome. What frustrated her most was delays, callous attitude of officials and constant demand for bribes. Her experience and the experience of many others like her has deterred people from taking up social service projects.

A measure of Government control over voluntary social work is necessary. But it should not be exercised in a coercive a corrupt manner. What measures can you suggest to ensure that due control is exercised but well meaning, honest NGO efforts are not thwarted? (300 words).

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The above case presents a lackadaisical attitude of government, where common people have to deal with corruption, red-tapism, favouritism and despotic attitude of people at higher position. Such attitude act as deterrent for an individual or NGOs, who really want to bring some positive changes in the society by bridging the gap of development.

Thus there should a balanced check on such officials who are acting as hindrance for efficient functioning of NGO and there should be also sufficient regulation on the NGOs, which indulge in corrupt practices defying its main objective.

Measures that can be suggested are-

- **Simplification of rules and regulations** - One stop center or single window clearance without with a time frame should be implemented. It will simplify the process, considering the stakeholders point of view.
- **Mechanism for grievance redressal** - There should be provision of an Ombudsman to deal with grievances, which will act as a check on corrupt officials and it will also give moral support to NGO or individuals - that their efforts won't go waste.
- **Taking help of technology**- These days e-governance has made the government services more accessible, cost efficient and more transparency. It has potential to fix the accountability of the officials. Thus, all the government offices and process should be digitised to reduce the discretion of the officials, in turn reducing the harassment for NGOs.
- **Track on the flow of finances** - Finances received by NGOs should be tracked and check to avoid any misuses like - lobbying, money laundering, etc. The provisions of FCRA Act should be implemented in letter and spirit to

avoid misues and not to haarras the NGOs. Provisions for annual fund audit and compulsory PAN card verification for high payment transaction are some of the ways to keep a track.

- **Rewards system** - Appreciation and acknowledgement of genuine work of NGOs should be done by the government. They should be rewarded with citation or monetary benefits so that they can become Role model for other NGOs. For example - Nobel peace recognition for Kailash stayarathi has inspired the NGOs of next generation to pick up their own cause.
- **Bringing NGOs under the purview of RTI** - It would enhance the confidence of citizens by making the working NGOs more transparent. Since NGOs are doing public service, the citizens should have full rights to know how the work.

NGOs are bride between government and citizens and they create knowledge by conducting their own research and translate it into decision making. They also act as policy entrepreneur who come with solution to issues and give inputs to policies. Thus government should provide a cordial environment for genuine NGOs to grow which will boost vibrant participative democracy.