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SECURE SYNOPSIS MAINS 2020

GS- IV

DECEMBER 2019



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.



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Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships.

Discuss the role played by ethics in maintaining interpersonal relationship.

Why this question:

The question is from the static portions of the GS paper IV.

Key demand of the question:

Explain in detail the role played by ethics in maintaining interpersonal relationship.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Explain what are interpersonal relationships in short.

Body:

Explain that being ethical isn't always easy, and to truly be a moral person, you have to try and be ethical in every aspect of life. One aspect in particular is interpersonal communication, or the direct exchange of information between two or more people.

Discuss the importance of interpersonal relationship and how ethics influences it using suitable illustrations.

Conclusion:

Conclude by reasserting importance of ethics.

Introduction:

Ethics are important in all aspects of life, and communication is no exception. Explore the way in which ethics relate specifically to interpersonal communication, and test your understanding with a brief quiz.

Interpersonal relationships exist between any two or more persons who interact and fulfil one or more physical or emotional needs. It is a strong bond between two or more people that brings them close to each other. Ethics is a systematic and critical analysis of morality, of the moral factors that guide human conduct in a particular society or practice.

Body:

Role of Ethics in maintaining interpersonal relationship:

- **Interpersonal relationship** between children and their parents, brother and sister, immediate family members or relatives revolve around trust, commitment and care.
- **Integrity** which is the ethical standard that compels one to maintain consistency in belief and action.
- **Fairness** so that the right balance of interest in regard to one's own feelings and the other side of a conflict are in check.
- **Truthfulness** and honesty are ethical standards that compel people not to lie, mislead, or deceive
- **Empathy** which is the principle of understanding the feelings of others.



- **Solidarity:** Stand by your loved ones at times of need.
- **Tolerance:** Being open to various ideas and being open to constructive criticism.

Conclusion:

The scope of interpersonal relationship extends in public and private life. Thus, ethics plays an imperative role in maintaining good and healthy interpersonal relationships.

In today's quintessential world of Internet and Social media, Tech giants watch our every move online. Comment on how that violate our human rights?

The Guardian

Why this question:

The argument by social media giants that data collection is inherent to the way the internet works. The internet didn't have to be this way. A new report by Amnesty International made the bold case this week that we need to stop accepting the status quo and start seeing it for what it really is: a violation of our human rights "on an unprecedented scale" perpetrated by two American companies, Facebook and Google.

Key demand of the question:

One has to argue the how privacy is inherent part of every individual and how this must be respected and upheld by others.

Directive:

Comment– here we have to express our knowledge and understanding of the issue and form an overall opinion thereupon.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Briefly introduce about how the access to the internet is critical for the realization of human rights in the modern world. To voice out our opinions, to spread a message, to help people in distress etc.

Body:

Highlight how the social media platforms have been an important source of information dissemination. People all around the world are reliant on these platforms in order to express themselves freely, to access information online and to engage in society.

Now discuss specifically issues related to privacy concerns.

Argue how the the eradication of privacy has "knock-on effects" that threaten other rights, including freedom of expression, freedom of thought and freedom from discrimination.

Talk about how Facebook and Google are also exacerbating the threat of government surveillance, the report argues, by amassing so much personal information in the first place. The companies' data troves are attractive "honeypots" for governments.

Conclusion:

Conclude with solutions to the problem and suggest way forward.

Introduction:

Access to the internet is critical for the realization of human rights in the modern world, and that includes the tools and services which Facebook and Google provide. People all around the world are reliant on these platforms in order to express themselves freely, to access information online and to engage in society.

However, there are reports from many human rights NGO like Amnesty that these social media giants are snooping and collecting private information of users without their knowledge. The social



media giant Facebook also agreed to the claims that its data collection is inherent to the way the internet works.

Body:

Human rights are the rights which are inherent to every human being by the virtue of being a human. The primary human right threatened by the two companies is the right to privacy. The eradication of privacy has “knock-on effects” that threaten other rights, including freedom of expression, freedom of thought and freedom from discrimination.

This extraction and analysis of people’s personal data on such an unprecedented scale is incompatible with every element of the right to privacy, including the freedom from intrusion into our private lives, the right to control information about ourselves, and the right to a space in which we can freely express our identities.

Facebook and Google are also exacerbating the threat of government surveillance by amassing so much personal information in the first place. The companies’ data troves are attractive “honeypots” for governments.

To protect our core human values in the digital age – dignity, autonomy, privacy – there needs to be a radical overhaul of the way Big Tech operates, and to move to an internet that has human rights at its core.

governments must enact laws to ensure companies including Google and Facebook are prevented from making access to their service conditional on individuals “consenting” to the collection, processing or sharing of their personal data for marketing or advertising. Companies including Google and Facebook also have a responsibility to respect human rights wherever and however they operate.

Conclusion:

Google and Facebook dominate our modern lives – amassing unparalleled power over the digital world by harvesting and monetizing the personal data of billions of people. Their insidious control of our digital lives undermines the very essence of privacy and is one of the defining human rights challenges of our era.

“If a country is to be corruption free and become a nation of beautiful minds, there are three key societal members who can make a difference and they are the father, the mother and the teacher.” – Analyse the statement with suitable illustrations. (250 Words)

Reference: Quote based question

Why this question:

9th December is celebrated as world anti-corruption day. Thus the question.

Key demand of the question:

One must examine the role of family and a teacher in ensuring a corruption free society.

Directive:

analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief define and discuss the issue of corruption across the world.

**Body:**

First discuss what causes corruption.

Explain the factors responsible for it.

Discuss the role of Mother, Father and a teacher in ensuring the roots of corruption are never sown in the first place.

Quote examples from day to day life, suggest preaching of great scholars and teachers like A P J Abdul Kalam etc. and justify your answer.

Conclusion:

Conclude with what needs to be done to strengthen the anti-corruption drive and make the world a corruption free society.

Introduction:

Being corruption free and a nation of beautiful minds require having sound ethical values in citizens.

Children of today are the citizen of tomorrow and the values imbibed in a child during its formative years plays an important role in the holistic progress of the nation. In this respect, three most influencing stakeholders i.e. father, mother and teacher are critical in shaping the impressionable mind by inculcating right values.

Body:**Parents:**

- Inculcating honesty, empathy, truthfulness, compassion towards fellow living beings can be effectively done by parents only.
- These all require that parents provide emotional security and meet material requirements of the child.
- A large portion of the time is spent by child where it acquires habits observing its parents. Hence parents should not only preach but lead by example by exercising the aforementioned values.
- Parents also form the formative mind of children when they tell moral based stories.
- Exposing the children to good literature and movies also can be done by parents. Like Harishchandra stories which portrays "honesty".
- Father is always the first role model for a child. Children learn by emulating their fathers. This with time becomes ingrained in their minds and become a part of their own character.
- Mother is often referred to as the first teacher and guide for a child. She teaches him emotional intelligence, empathy, compassion.
- It is often the mother who guides our perception of what is right and wrong. This in an early stage gets inculcated and becomes a part of our conscience. Mother influences our religious beliefs, cleanliness habits.

Teachers:

- In addition to above stated values, teachers play a vital role in stoking curiosity in child, fostering his creative ability and bring out latent talent and passions.



- Teachers also play an important role in imbuing discipline and regulating the child's inter-personal interaction with peers.
- Value based education in school should be prominent as envisaged by Gandhiji in Wardha scheme of education.
- Given the fact that children spent almost half of their childhood in school, the role of teacher is paramount.

Conclusion:

Other factors like media, peers and friends, siblings also play a vital role in shaping an individual. But primarily it is the troika of teacher, mother and father.

“Death is not the greatest loss in life; the greatest loss is what dies inside us while we live”, analyse the quote from the ethical perspectives relevant to today's contemporary world. (250 Words)

Reference – quote based questions

Why this question:

The question is based on the idea that “Your body dies but your soul and spirit never dies.”

Key demand of the question:

One must explain the significance of the quote in detail using suitable examples from the ethical perspectives relevant to today's world.

Directive:

Analyze – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief narrate the meaning of the quote.

Body:

The above stated theme depicts the importance of listening to inner voice and pursuing your dreams to enrich our life over the passive existence and dying without making any mark. Establish the context of the theme by supporting your stance with valid arguments.

Introduce the concept of death of a body and inner voice and then explain the value of dreams and how we face challenges while achieving it because road to success is never easy but it is always rewarding.

explain why people give up under various situations be it professional life, love life, social life or just life in general. What are the causes behind it whether external (Social Pressure) or internal (Like lack of courage). How can an individual overcome those challenges?

Conclusion:

Conclude with the view that one must never give up. No matter how hard it is, no matter how much it takes out of you one should never give up on their dreams. Nothing is easy in life and if it is easy it is not worth it.

Introduction:

A person is made a human because of our conscience the accumulated sum total of our experiences, our emotions, our abilities and our vulnerabilities. It binds us to the world, makes us believe humans matter and above all is the driver of all proactivity.

Body:



Humanity has been sustained and maintained by these mutual bondages and individual aspirations. Loss of these values would make anyone an outcast in a society. This level of awareness and compassion is what separates man from other animals. Unlike animals, humans don't have to depend on instincts (though they have them). Humans are an innovative species not just because we won the race of natural selection out of sheer luck, but our consciousness helped us win the race.

When this ability to feel, reason and be associated is lost, we lose the humane portion of our existence. We survive, but the reason why we exist is lost. The sheer volume of data resting in our heads becomes meaningless with the software processing that data gone forever.

Be it Buddha or Gandhi, all have emphasized on compassion, and found it integral to our soul. The means to salvation according to them was to behave humanely, be in touch with human elements. But once we let go of the human values, we lose all sense of morality and obligation. The institutions constructed for pushing these values (religion, government, family, and society) seem redundant and often ridiculous. The detachment can make us undermine humans and sometimes even render them insignificant.

Conclusion:

Not being able to feel any pain is the best blessing humans can ask for but the blessing comes at the cost of not being able to feel joy either. Probably being able to feel, desire and aspire is what makes us humans, makes us more than a tangible entity. The feeling of belonging keeps us together. The aspirations keep us innovative and fear and caution protect us. These psychological and biological links are intertwined and make a human, humane. Death is a loss to a society, but death of humanness is the loss to individual, and an immeasurable one.

“With rising intolerance and polarization in today's world, forgiveness and compassion are much needed values.” Examine. (250 words).

Ethics by Lexicon

Why this question:

The increasing incidents of hatred, violence against women, communal violence and other such grave incidents makes it important for individuals to respect, uphold and practice the human values of forgiveness and compassion.

Key demand of the question:

Discuss in detail the relevance of these values in the age of rising intolerance and polarization the world is witnessing.

Directive:

Examine – When asked to ‘Examine’, we must look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In brief narrate what are values and their importance in general.

Body:

Explain that to forgive, we must be ready to let go of our anger and resentment toward someone or something. However, the meaning of forgiveness that I prefer is simply “letting go.” The act of compassion is the desire to alleviate the suffering of others. In other words, it is showing care for others while understanding that they are fully responsible for their actions. It doesn't mean that we are justifying their behavior; instead, by being compassionate, we are making space for others to have their experiences without attaching our reactions to them.



Use suitable case studies to justify how these values play crucial role in today's rising intolerance and polarized world.

Conclusion:

Conclude with importance of compassion and forgiveness for the humanity.

Introduction:

A person who practices compassion and forgiveness has great inner strength, whereas aggression is usually a sign of weakness. – **Dalai Lama**

Forgiveness is an action of excusing someone or stop feeling resentful towards someone who has done wrong. Forgiveness can be one of the most liberating acts of self-love one can commit.

Compassion is the willingness to relieve the suffering of another. It is the sympathetic pity and concern for the sufferings or misfortunes of others. It motivates people to go out of their way to help the physical, mental, or emotional pains of another and themselves.

Great personalities like Gandhiji, Mother Teresa, and Nelson Mandela are great examples of personalities with forgiveness and compassion.

Body:

The nature of forgiveness is to muster up whatever compassion you have left for the person that has wronged you. If you cannot do this — if you cannot be compassionate toward that individual, anger may eat away at you and then give birth to bitterness.

If you've ever experienced bitterness and resentment, then you know that it is not something worth carrying around all the time. It becomes a heavy burden that weighs us down and isolates us. Forgiveness takes this away. Forgiveness kills bitterness and resentment.

The relevance of forgiveness and compassion in today's times:

- Increasing crimes related to vengeance like mob lynching, rapes, acid attacks etc.
- Intolerance and hatred among communities, states and countries.
- Rising communalism, racism, refugee crisis.
- Incidents of terrorism in the name of religion.
- Rising inequality between the rich and the poor.
- Declining environmental values and compassion for the wild animals.
- Unequal treatment of women, third gender etc.
- Climate change and rising sea levels submerging many small island nations.

Conclusion:

We must learn to forgive and be compassionate beings. These take a few moments of our life and give us back immense peace and a relation free of grudge. This is applicable for self too, it is truly said "you will begin to heal, when you let go of past hurts, forgive those who have wronged you and learn to forgive yourself for your mistakes".



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

“Attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference”. Examine with respect to successful implementation of Government schemes.

Why this question:

The question is based on the theme of attitude and its importance in daily life of individuals.

Key demand of the question:

One must discuss the relevance of attitudes of various stakeholders in successful implementation of Government schemes.

Directive:

Examine – When asked to ‘Examine’, we have to look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

What do you understand by attitude?

Body:

Discuss how an individual with positive attitude sees even failure as possibility of having something better.

Having a positive attitude makes one confident about herself and this in long term not only helps an individual but to all those who are associated with her

Explain first that there are various stakeholders involved in implementation of Govt schemes.

Lawmakers/Parliament

Implementers/Bureaucracy

Public at large.

Private entities.

Other stakeholders like NGOs, SHGs etc.

Discuss from each stakeholders’ perspective as to how the right attitude will lead to success of any public program.

Take instances of Swatch Bharat and so on

Conclusion:

Conclude with importance of having the right attitude in life.

Introduction:

Attitude is a relatively enduring organization of beliefs, feelings, and behavioural tendencies towards socially significant objects, groups, events or symbols. It is a psychological tendency that is expressed by evaluating a particular entity with some degree of favour or disfavour.

Body:

Behaviour change communication and its key to changing attitudes and behaviours:

- It is an interactive process of any intervention with individuals, communities and/or societies to develop communication strategies to promote positive behaviours which are appropriate to their settings and there by solve world’s most pressing health problems.
- This in turn provides a supportive environment which will enable people to initiate, sustain and maintain positive and desirable behaviour outcomes.



- It employs a systematic process beginning with formative research and behaviour analysis, followed by communication planning, implementation, and monitoring and evaluation.
- Audiences are carefully segmented, messages and materials are pre-tested, and mass media (which include radio, television, billboards, print material, internet), interpersonal channels (such as client-provider interaction, group presentations) and community mobilisation are used to achieve defined behavioural objectives.
- Strategic use of behaviour change communication (BCC) applies targeted messages and tailored approaches to promote healthy behaviours and reduced risk taking.
- SBCC is the comprehensive process in which one passes through the stages:
- Unaware > Aware > Concerned > Knowledgeable > Motivated to change > Practicing trial behavior change > Sustained behavior change
- Research consistently shows evidence-based communication programs can increase knowledge, shift attitudes and cultural norms and produce changes in a wide variety of behaviours.

Attitude and Government schemes:

Role in improving human health:

- Behaviour change communication (BCC) encompasses health communication, social and community mobilization, and it evolved from information, education and communication (IEC) strategies.
- With components ranging from interpersonal communication between a community health worker and her client to multi-level mass media campaigns, evidence-based and theory-driven BCC interventions are an integral part of all types of health promotion and disease prevention
- BCC is an effective tool for dealing with many community and group related problems.
- BCC has been adapted as an effective strategy for community mobilization, health and environment education and various public outreach programs.

Malaria control:

Behaviour change communication is used in malaria control to encourage families to hang and use their nets regularly, care for them and repair them when they're torn, or to create demand for replacing nets on a continuous basis or as part of distribution campaigns. To inform communities of the optimal timing of malaria control interventions. To explain changing diagnostic concerns (e.g. increasing false negatives as parasite density and multiplicity of infections fall) and treatment guidelines.

HIV/AIDS:

Behaviour Change Communication is a process of working with individuals, communities and societies to develop communication strategies to promote positive behaviours in HIV and AIDS prevention and to provide a supportive environment which will enable people to initiate and sustain positive behaviours. To reach populations who remain at risk as transmission dynamics change (e.g.



mobile populations). To facilitate identification of people with asymptomatic infections and their compliance with treatment.

Conclusion:

Individuals who have a positive attitude will pay attention to the good, rather than bad in people, situations, events, etc. They will not consider a mistake or failure as a hurdle, but as an opportunity. People with a negative attitude ignore the good, and pay attention to the bad in people, situations, events, etc. Also, they are likely to complain about changes, rather than adapting to the changing environment. Attitude may change with different situations and experiences in life. So, attitudes are learned and acquired.

Aptitude and foundational values for Civil Service , integrity, impartiality and non-partisanship, objectivity, dedication to public service, empathy, tolerance and compassion towards the weaker sections.

What do you understand by the following terms? Point out their specific relevance in public service: 1. Intellectual integrity 2. Spirit of service

Ethics by Lexicon publications

Why this question:

The question is from the static portions of GS paper IV.

Key demand of the question:

One must discuss the terms with suitable examples and also explain two more such attributes that are important to public servants.

Directive:

Justify – When you are asked to justify, you have to pass a sound judgement about the truth of the given statement in the question or the topic based on evidences. You have to appraise the worth of the statement in question using suitable case studies or/ and examples.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Define the terms in question.

Body:

Intellectual integrity is the discipline of striving to be thorough and honest to learn the truth or to reach the best decision possible in a given situation. A person with intellectual integrity has a driving desire to follow reasons and evidence courageously wherever they may lead.

Spirit of Service; This quality in public service makes the foundation of such job requirement. Spirit of service towards the nation and its people is the cornerstone of pub. Service and requires readiness to serve in all and every condition.

Commitment: Being always responsible and genuine to the words, deeds and promises. It is the most important ingredient of public servant. There might be a chance to flout promises and rebuild our relationships in personal life. But in official capacity, breaking a promise or vow can't be undone or taken back because it affects public at large.

Explain each term with suitable and relevant example.

Conclusion:

Conclude with their importance to public services.

1. Intellectual integrity:



Intellectual integrity is defined as recognition of the need to be true to one's own thinking and to hold oneself to the same standards one expects others to meet. The early Greek philosophers (e.g., Socrates, Plato and Aristotle) changed the world because they forged a new path toward intellectual integrity.

Intellectual integrity is required in a person in order to lead one's life with principles, dignity, respect and proud. It will help an individual to enhance his/her credibility in eyes of themselves and people. It if positively conceived will contribute in betterment of society.

For a civil servant it is an indispensable quality:

- Intellectual integrity will help him in leadership, team work, professionalism, prudence and in exercise of public ethos in service.
- It will help him to become more welfare oriented and transparent, accountable like an intellectually oriented person will think twice before indulging in anti-social activity.
- The intellectual integrity of the person will guide the person in path of right, keep him away from getting involved in corrupt practices and will enhance the institutions efficacy in long term.

2. Spirit of service:

Spirit of service is the **quality of being committed to public service without any self-motives**. It includes **inculcation of love and compassion while delivering the duty**. It means **expecting nothing in return for the services rendered and brings true happiness and security for the service provider**. The spirit of service **protects, builds and nurtures the constitutional pillars** that give us legitimacy and purpose.

Importance of Spirit of Service in Public Services:

- A civil servant works not for monetary benefits, promotion or easy postings but for the chance to work for the public welfare is a prize in itself.
- It will help him keep motivated and focused towards his ultimate goal.
- Without this value, a civil servant will be a machine working in the system.
- He/she should have feeling towards the downtrodden and poor citizens.
- Spirit of service will awake a power in him to transform the lives of million people living in poverty
- Helps civil servants to operate in a politically neutral way so that it can loyally and effectively serve successive Governments
- Is open and transparent so that citizens can see the working, engage, and hold to account the civil servants

Example: A high official from the Water and Sanitation Ministry took upon himself the responsibility to educate people about the safety of twin-pit system. This helped alleviate the notion of 'pollution' in the minds of people.



Integrity compels individuals to be socially conscious and to welcome both personal and professional responsibility. Analyse the reasons for a decline in civil service integrity and suggest solutions. (250 words)

Ethics by Lexicon

Why this question:

The question is because of the rising cases of corruption in the civil services, declining dutifulness, delayed decision making due to various societal, political pressures faced by the civil servants.

Key demand of the question:

The question is about analysing the importance of integrity for civil servants and analysing the reasons for the declining trend of integrity in civil services.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In a few introductory lines define what is integrity.

Body:

The question is straightforward, thus doesn't require much deliberation, one must discuss the concept of integrity in detail, its importance for civil services and relevance in Indian democracy.

Discuss the reasons for the declining integrity among the civil services.

The rising materialism and acquisitiveness in social life.

Increasing trend of political executive involving in the administrative matters.

Rising quid-pro-quo between political and permanent executive.

Loss of neutrality and increasing bias towards a particular political parties.

Provide the various measures needed to rebuild and follow the path of integrity.

Conclusion:

Conclude with significance of integrity in good governance.

Introduction:

Integrity is the practice of synchronisation of thought, words and actions. It can be correlated to honesty but unlike honesty it's more a professional value. It's related to institution. It advocates sacrifice of personal gains in favour of organisational objectives

Body:

Integrity in its bare-bones essence means **adherence to principles**. It is a three-step process:

- Choosing the right course of conduct
- Acting consistently with the choice even when it is inconvenient or unprofitable to do so
- Openly declaring where one stands.
- Accordingly, integrity is equated with moral reflection, steadfastness to commitments, trustworthiness.

Reasons for decline in civil service integrity:

Historical Causes:

- In India, corruption has its roots in the colonial rule of the past. British administration was not interested in the overall development of the country.
- After World War II, scarcities led to many types of controls.
- It gave added opportunities to these low paid employees to resort to corrupt practices.



- Then it became habitual. It was during World War I that corruption reached the highest mark in India.
- The climate for integrity which had been rendered unhealthy by wartime controls and scarcities was further aggravated by the post-war flush of money and the consequent inflation.

Environmental Causes:

- The second important cause of corruption in public service is 'fast urbanisation and industrialisation where material possessions, position and economic power determine the status and prestige in the society.
- Since salaries are low and inflation is unabated, poor civil servants fall easy prey to corrupt practices in order to maintain status in the society.

Economic Causes:

- Inadequate remuneration of salary scales and rising cost of living is probably one of the important causes of corruption.
- In recent years, the fast rising cost of living has brought down the real income of various sections of the community, particularly the salaried classes.
- The urge to appear prestigious by material possessions has encouraged those who had the opportunities to succumb to temptations.

Lack of Strong Public Opinion Against the Evil of Corruption:

- People do not report to government against corrupt officials.
- Instead they offer bribes to get their illegitimate claims accepted. People must fight against corruption and build a strong public opinion against corruption.

Complicated and Cumbersome Procedures and Working of Government Offices:

- It is alleged that the working of certain government departments, e.g., the Customs and Central Excise, Imports and Exports, Railways, Supplies and Disposals, Police, Income Tax, etc., is complicated, cumbersome and dilatory.
- This has encouraged the growth of dishonest practices like the system of 'speedy money'.

Inadequate Laws to Deal with Corruption:

- Indian Penal Code and other laws which deal with corruption cases are outmoded and provide insufficient penalties.
- It takes too much time to get a corrupt officials punished under the laws.
- Summary trials and stricter punishments should be awarded to end corruption.
- Therefore, the laws will have to be changed accordingly.

Undue Protection Given to the Public Services in India:

- Article 311 of the Indian Constitution which provides protection to civil servants, as interpreted by our courts, made it difficult to deal effectively with corrupt public servants.



- Reluctance of higher officials to take disciplinary action against corrupt officials due to their collusion with them has further aggravated the situation.

Collusion of Commercial and Industrial Magnates and Others to Serve their Individual Interests:

- Big businessmen, dishonest merchants, suppliers and contractors, bribe the civil servants in order to get undue favours from them.
- Sometimes they share a portion of their ill earned profit with the government servants.

Pressure Groups:

- Pressure Groups like Indian Chamber of Commerce, 'Trade Associations, State Chambers of Commerce, are said to help in breeding corruption through their activities of getting favours for their communities.
- They influence ruling elite through dinners, parties, luncheons. Etc.

Measures needed:

- Raising of pay, consequently, is a basic means to wipe-out the widespread bribery in the civil services
- Delays must be prevented and officials made fully responsive to the needs of all the people.
- the elimination of corruption requires a widespread and steadfast opposition to it, coupled with the courage to act against it.
- High Officials having considerable discretionary powers must be thoroughly disciplined to refuse gifts, invitations and other favours.

Empathy is seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another and feeling with the heart of another. Elucidate. (250 words).

Ethics by Lexicon

The Conversation

Key demand of the question:

The question wants us to write in detail about the meaning and importance of empathy as a value and also discuss in detail as to how empathy can be increased among civil servants.

Directive:

Elucidate – Give a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer

Introduction:

In a few introductory lines define what is empathy.

Empathy It involves, first, seeing someone else's situation from his/ her perspective, and, second, sharing that person's emotions, including, if any, his distress.

Empathy, is the act of putting yourself in someone else's shoes.

It occurs when you are truly trying to understand or experience someone else's emotions, as if they were your own.

Body:

Discuss the importance of empathy.

It helps us understand how others are feeling so we can respond appropriately to the situation.

It is typically associated with social behaviour



Empathy is an interpersonal skill that can be viewed as part of emotional intelligence

Empathy can however also inhibit social actions, or even lead to immoral behaviour.

Discuss how empathy can be inculcated/ increased.

Some people are genetically inclined to be highly empathic or not.

it is possible to increase cognitive, emotional and behavioural empathy through formal training

instruction about the benefits of showing empathy, how to identify emotions in others, how to feel those emotions and how to comment appropriately on them.

providing models of a person showing empathy in response to something another has said or done.

practice at showing empathy etc.

Conclusion:

based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Introduction:

Empathy is the ability to be aware of, understand, and appreciate the feelings and thoughts of others. Empathy is “tuning in” (being sensitive) to what, how, and why people feel and think the way they do. Being empathic means being able to “emotionally read” other people.

Body:

Empathy helps in the following:

- **Understands Unspoken content:**
- Demonstrates active listening skills (such as asking probing questions, not interrupting)
- Picks up signals when others are not feeling comfortable and displays consideration.
- **Has concern for others:**
 - Open to diversity of opinion.
 - Probes to understand people’s issues, unspoken thoughts, and feelings
- **Expresses concern for Others:**
 - Demonstrates empathy by correctly understanding reactions or emotions of others.
 - Builds trust by demonstrating respect for other’s point of view.
- **Acts as a Role-model:**
 - Makes a balanced assessment of a person’s strengths and weaknesses based on a deeper understanding of the individual
- **Creates and provides an environment of Respect:**
 - Creates a culture of mutual trust and respect.

Importance of Empathy:

- Empathy allows people to **build social connections with others**. By understanding what people are thinking and feeling, people are able to respond appropriately in social situations.



- Empathizing with others helps you **learn to regulate your own emotions**. Emotional regulation is important in that it allows you to manage what you are feeling, even in times of great stress, without becoming overwhelmed.
- Empathy **promotes helping behaviours**. Not only are you more likely to engage in helpful behaviours when you feel empathy for other people; other people are also more likely to help you when they experience empathy.
- Despite claims that empathy comes naturally, it takes arduous mental effort to get into another person's mind and then to respond with compassion rather than indifference.

Conclusion:

While empathy might fail sometimes, most people are able to empathize with others in a variety of situations. This ability to see things from another person's perspective and sympathize with another's emotions plays an important role in our social lives. Empathy allows us to understand others and, quite often, compels us to take action to relieve another person's suffering.





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Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance.

Disputes are best resolved when you know what you want, can communicate it clearly, understand what someone else wants, and come to favourable terms for everyone.

Elucidate. (250 words).

Ethics by Lexicon

Get pocket

Why this question:

The article discusses in detail the importance of emotional intelligence in life of every person. People who exhibit emotional intelligence have the less obvious skills necessary to get ahead in life, such as managing conflict resolution, reading and responding to the needs of others, and keeping their own emotions from overflowing and disrupting their lives.

Key demand of the question:

The answer must discuss why emotional intelligence is of prime importance in life, how empathy can be more effective than anger at the personal and professional level.

Directive:

Elucidate – Give a detailed account as to how and why it occurred, or what is the particular context. You must be defining key terms where ever appropriate, and substantiate with relevant associated facts.

Structure of the answer

Introduction:

In a few introductory lines appreciate the need for Emotional intelligence.

Body:

Define – empathy and emotional intelligence

Discuss how emotional intelligence is necessary for the people interaction, dispute resolution in daily life. Emotional intelligence as the ability to accurately perceive and manage your own emotions and understand and navigate those of others, thus enhancing your ability to influence, manage conflicts, lead others and build relationships.

Elucidate on the four pillars of self-awareness, self-management, social awareness and relationship management.

Provide for a case study/example to conclude better.

Conclusion:

Conclude by re asserting significance of such virtues.

Introduction:

Emotional intelligence or EI is the ability to understand and manage your own emotions, and those of the people around you. Emotional intelligence is the ability to perceive emotions, to access and generate emotions so as to assist thought, to understand emotions and emotional knowledge, and to reflectively regulate emotions so as to promote emotional and intellectual growth.

Empathy is the capacity to understand or feel what another person is experiencing from within their frame of reference, that is, the capacity to place oneself in another's position.

Emotional intelligence as the ability to accurately perceive and manage your own emotions and understand and navigate those of others, thus enhancing your ability to influence, manage conflicts, lead others and build relationships.

Body:



How emotional intelligence resolve the disputes:

By following emotional intelligence skills, we can resolve the disputes

Self-awareness:

- The ability to recognize and understand personal moods and emotions and drives, as well as their effect on others.
- **Hallmarks of self-awareness** include self-confidence, realistic self-assessment, and a self-deprecating sense of humour.
- **Emotional awareness:** This deals with knowledge of one's emotions and their effects. People having this competency are more aware of their feelings and performance.
- **Accurate self-assessment:** This involves being aware of one's strengths and weaknesses. One is open to feedbacks, new viewpoints, etc.
- **Self-confidence:** This relates to complete affirmation of one's worth and abilities. They are usually more confident and are able to make sound decisions despite any uncertainties or pressures

Self-management:

- Ability to control or redirect disruptive impulses and moods, and the propensity to suspend judgment and to think before acting. Hallmarks include trustworthiness and integrity; comfort with ambiguity; and openness to change.
- **Adaptability:** This involves flexible attitude towards change. People with this competency find it easy to handle changing routines, multiple roles and even shifting priorities.
- **Innovativeness:** This involves getting easy with and open to new information and ideas. People who possess this are able to gather new ideas from multiple sources, set challenging roles and are able to take calculated risks. They evolve original solutions to various problems.

Social Awareness:

- The ability to understand the emotional makeup of other people. A skill in treating people according to their emotional reactions.
- Empathy does not necessarily imply compassion. Empathy can be 'used' for compassionate or cruel behavior. Serial killers who marry and kill many partners in a row tend to have great empathic skills.
- A passion to work for internal reasons that go beyond money and status -which are external rewards, – such as an inner vision of what is important in life, a joy in doing something, curiosity in learning, a flow that comes with being immersed in an activity

Relationship management:

- Proficiency in managing relationships and building networks, and an ability to find common ground and build rapport.
- Hallmarks of social skills include effectiveness in leading change, persuasiveness, and expertise building and leading teams.



Social Skills:

- Social competence takes many forms – it's more than just being chatty. These abilities range from being able to tune into another person's feelings and understand how they think about things, to being a great collaborator and team player, to expertise at negotiation. All these skills are learned in life.
- We can improve on any of them we care about, but it takes time, effort, and perseverance. It helps to have a model, someone who embodies the skill we want to improve.
- But we also need to practice whenever a naturally occurring opportunity arises – and it may be listening to a teenager, not just a moment at work.

Conclusion:

Not every type of interaction with another person will be a conflict, of course. Some social skills just involve meeting new people, socializing with people of different mindsets, or just playing games. However, resolving conflict can be one of the best ways to learn how to apply your emotional skills. Disputes are best resolved when you know what you want, can communicate it clearly, understand what someone else wants, and come to favorable terms for everyone.

Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.

Equality is the essence of an ethical society. Discuss Dr. Ambedkar's contributions of moral philosophy stating your view.

The Hindu

Why this question:

Despite 72 years of independence, the conditions of Dalits still remain deplorable. There is an urgent need to address the inequalities faced. The views of Ambedkar in this regard acts as a guiding light.

Key demand of the question

One must discuss the importance of equality in society. Further discuss the views and contributions of Dr. Ambedkar to achieve the same.

Directive word

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer

Introduction

Briefly discuss about the issues faced today by the Dalits; STs etc.

Body

Discuss the views and contributions of Ambedkar in various realms.

A pragmatist to the core, Ambedkar believed that in the absence of economic and social justice political independence would not bring about their social solidarity or, national integration.

He advocated the abolition of privileges on the basis of caste or status and vigorously fought for the liberty and dignity of the individual. At the same time, he was equally force-full in his advocacy of the unity of the nation.

Ambedkar sought to achieve these objectives through the constitution of India.

Conclusion

Conclude with what more needs to be done to achieve Ambedkar's dreams of an egalitarian society.

**Introduction:**

Equality is a pre-requisite for an ethical society. Though it is difficult and undesirable to achieve absolute equality. But equality of opportunity to everyone ensures fairness and justice. It gives a chance to everyone to live a decent and respectable life. Ambedkar's political legacy reminds us of his aim to build a democratic and inclusive India with economic growth, equality and social justice.

Body:

There are reports of practices of untouchability in rural parts, caste-based discrimination in public institutions and heinous forms of atrocities against Dalits, honour killing by dominant caste, Khap Panchayat. Many young couples who prefer inter caste marriage are being ostracized and in many cases being killed by dominant caste Panchayats. The policy and criminal justice administration has failed to ensure justice to the victims of atrocities. There should be exemplary punishment for the persons who believe in caste system by treating them as anti-nationals because they are against equality and human dignity.

Dr. Ambedkar is a champion for the cause of equality. His moral philosophy argues-

- **Annihilation of caste:** He argues that caste system is irrational and has divided our society. He argues that only a complete annihilation of caste can help to unite our society.
- **Liberty and Equality:** He argues that liberty and equality cannot be separated from each other. They must go hand in hand. If liberty prevails over equality, then it would cause rule of a few elites but if equality would reign over liberty then it would kill individual initiative.
- **Religious Scriptures:** Ambedkar argues for the logical interpretation of religious scriptures. Discard scriptures that promote discrimination.
- **Dysfunctional Society:** Ambedkar argues that a society where occupations were divided on caste was a dysfunctional one. This is not working on its ultimate efficiency and is holding the nation back.
- **Boycotted Temple Entry Movements:** Ambedkar boycotted temple entry movements. He argued that these movements can at most achieve cosmetic changes.

Conclusion:

Ambedkar was not only a social reformer but also a visionary leader. He not only showed how caste discrimination was unethical but also showed how it was holding the progress of our nation back. The social and economic equality vision of Ambedkar continues to inspire Indian nationalism and in building India on principles of democracy, liberty, equality, fraternity and dignity of human being.

"We are never truly free till we master and understand our own selves". In light of this statement, discuss Gandhiji's views on self-development. (250 words).

The Hindu

Key demand of the question:

The question wants us to write in detail about the importance of self-development and personality for every individual to realise his/her true potential.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.



Structure of the answer

Introduction:

In a few introductory lines define what is self-development.

Body:

Discuss the importance of self-development.

Discuss Gandhiji's idea and how he promoted the idea of self-development.

Gandhiji's emphasis on subjecting the body to harsh discipline finds echo in the Indic traditions, which are in a way way of the deha or the body.

Satyagraha, too, at one level, was a relentless pursuit of truth by an individual. If we were to go by its literal meaning in Hindi, then it is a "struggle for truth".

It was as much spiritual as it was political.

The individual self and its mastery over its body and its spiritual self thus constituted important elements of the Gandhian discourse on politics.

Conclusion:

based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Introduction:

Self-Development is about upgrading and nurturing one's external and internal identity to attain a valuable change in life. Having a personality that leaves lasting first impressions is significant in today's world. People continuously work on making their personality highly-influential and unique the moment they come to their senses in life.

Body:

Moral ethics are the basis of this trait and help a person in improving their character in becoming a better version of themselves. Many people suffer and lack interest in building their personality based on morality and good character. A progressing mind and growing personality will never go out of fashion. The role of ethnicity in personality development is very beneficial.

Gandhiji's idea of self-development:

- **Through Physical activities:**
 - Gandhiji's emphasis on subjecting the body to harsh discipline finds echo in the Indic traditions, which are in a way way of the deha or the body.
 - He subjected his deha to all kinds of austerities, which thus became the site of most Gandhian experiments.
 - For instance, Gandhiji walked all his life, made others walk with him, and also had the courage to walk all by himself.
 - Walking reflected some deeply held Gandhian beliefs and philosophies. At one level, it was an attempt to disrupt, if not deconstruct, the mechanical rhythms of industrial time and reconnect with natural time. It represented forward movement, progress and the onward march of the satyagrahi.
 - Walking for him was a way of conditioning the body and subjecting it to rigorous practice. Bodily rigour, he believed, was necessary for disciplining the mind.
- **Through sovereignty over self:**



- To attain Swaraj, one had to first master the swa or self. In other words, attaining political sovereignty required one to first attain sovereignty over one's own self.
- This sovereignty of, and over, the self is essential for understanding Gandhiji's conception of Swaraj.
- Satyagraha, too, at one level, was a relentless pursuit of truth by an individual. If we were to go by its literal meaning in Hindi, then it is a "struggle for truth".
- It was as much spiritual as it was political.
- The individual self and its mastery over its body and its spiritual self thus constituted important elements of the Gandhian discourse on politics.
- **Through strong Willpower:**
 - Willpower means the ability to distinguish between the good, the bad, and making constant efforts in doing the good only.
 - With ethics and moral values comes willpower.
 - A person with strong willpower will always make the right decisions, and he will always work towards achieving his goals and aims of life.
 - A person with no willpower will soon discontinue running the race of life. He'll feel a burden on his shoulders while always focusing on the negativity revolving around his life.
 - Good willpower nurtures self-growth in individuals making them strong enough to overcome any challenge life throws at them.
- **Having a Good Heart:**
 - Having a good heart simply means having generosity and kindness for others.
 - Having a heart of gold is an ethical trait that shapes one's personality more pleasantly.
 - Good-hearted people do well for others without having to ask for anything in return.
 - People who do not own this personality development trait tend to feel angry, become ignorant, and are of no help for others.
- **By Showing Respect:**
 - Respect means a gesture of valuing someone or something with etiquette and good manners.
 - The importance of respecting others and ways to show it is simple and easy to adopt.
 - Personal development and ethics are linked to the moral values of respecting others.
 - A person who does not know how to show respect to elders or even young fellows gets highly ignored and disrespected by others.

**Conclusion:**

The impact of ethics in nurturing personality is immensely vast. Self-improvement, self-growth, and self-development all depend on personal ethics and the moral values of a person.

Discuss in detail some of the key ideas of Confucius on morality and human character.
(250 words)

Ethics by Lexicon publications

Why this question:

The question is intended to examine the ideas of Confucius and his philosophy.

Key demand of the question:

One must explain the key ideas of Confucius on morality and human character.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:**Introduction:**

Confucianism became a major system of thought in Ancient China, developed from the teachings of Confucius and his disciples, and concerned with the principles of good conduct, practical wisdom, and proper social relationships. Throughout the feudal societies, it almost became dominant thinking.

Body:

Discuss the basic features of the Confucius's philosophy and elaborate on the basis.

Explain the 5 key principles; discuss his ideas on human character and morality in detail. The central idea of Confucius is that every normal human being cherishes the aspiration to become a superior man—superior to his fellows, if possible, but surely superior to his own past and present self. This does not more than hint at perfection as a goal.

Confucius taught that to pursue the art of life was possible for every man, all being of like passions and in more things like than different. He says: "By nature men are nearly alike; by practice, they get to be wide apart.

Quote suitable example wherever necessary and explain.

Conclusion:

Conclude by reasserting the significance of his teachings.

Introduction:

"Humility is the solid foundation of all virtues."

Confucianism is the philosophy based on the teachings of Confucius (551 BC – 479 BC), who was an important Chinese philosopher. Confucius was deeply involved in thinking about the concepts of human compassion and the development of a character. His lessons were basically full of ethics on human behaviours. He discussed more on the kindness of human rather than spiritual concepts.

Body:**Morality:**

Confucian moral education aims at a noble person who is characterized by superiority of mind, character, ideals or morals. Confucius insisted chiefly on the four virtues of sincerity, benevolence, filial piety and righteousness.



Confucius taught that people should have compassion for one another, and to avoid treating others in ways that they themselves would not wish to be treated. In order to be compassionate, people should avoid self-aggrandizement and be “simple in manner and slow of speech.” They should practice altruism and self-restraint. This teaching is relevant today as due to fast pace of economic growth and globalization, the inherent cultural values and virtues are deteriorating.

Confucius supposed that strong family values, with mutual respect and family loyalty were vital for a stable society. He stressed the significance of seniority and the need to pay respects to ancestors.

Human character:

Confucianism teaches 5 virtues.

- **Ren** (Jen), that refers to altruism and humanity.
- **Yi**, that refers to righteousness.
- **Li**, that refers to good conduct.
- **Zhi**, that refers to knowledge.
- **Xin**, which means loyalty.

According to him, Human character must have ever-lasting perseverance for standing up and doing the right things. One must have belief in self to be successful. Confucius emphasized the role of family and social harmony than on just spiritual values which made Confucianism humanistic. He relied on wisdom and knowledge which would shape human character and make the actions of human moral.

Conclusion:

Confucius was deeply involved in thinking about the concepts of human compassion and the development of a character. His ideas are true even today and can be applied in ethical judgement of an action. The Confucius teachings can be summarized into social and political philosophy with emphasis on education, social harmony which develops individual character.

Public/Civil service values and Ethics in Public administration: Status and problems; ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions; laws, rules, regulations and conscience as sources of ethical guidance; accountability and ethical governance; strengthening of ethical and moral values in governance;

“Public service is the basic objective of the welfare state”, in the backdrop of the statement discuss the basic public service values that a civil servant must aim to, to ensure effective and efficient public service delivery. (250 words).

Ethics by Lexicon Publications.

Why this question:

In rapidly changing society, there is a need of good public administration.

The question seeks to examine the need and importance of public values for effective delivery of public services by the civil servants.

Key demand of the question:



One should explain the essence of public values, importance and their need in public services to ensure a welfare state.

Directive:

Discuss – *This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.*

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Briefly explain the concepts of Public Service and Welfare State. A Welfare State can be described as a ‘system of government organized to ensure the well-being of citizens’. Public service is associated with the government and it is offered by administrative bodies to people living within its region and considered essential to modern life.

Body:

Discuss the core principles of the welfare state.

Highlight the relevance of public values to the civil servants.

Explain why values are important and essential? How they aid in effective delivery of public services.

For bureaucracies, adherence to high-level public service values can produce substantial public trust and assurance. On the contrary, weak application of values or promotion of incorrect values can lead to reductions in these essential elements of democratic governance, as well as to ethical and decision-making quandaries. Though a core set of public service values is necessary, it is also factual that different values apply to different parts of the public service.

Conclusion:

Conclude by reasserting the significance of values to public administration in general.

Introduction:

A public service is associated with government and it is offered by administrative bodies to people living within its region and considered essential to modern life. It refers to the broad framework under which government personnel extend services with the aim of advancing greater public good.

Body:

Importance of Public service:

- It acts as the backbone of administration of any country and serves its own people in the form of facilitation, protecting rights, welfare schemes, maintaining law and order, etc.
- It helps reduce the inequality and bring all on the same pedestal.
- It gives voice to the marginalized and vulnerable sections of the society.
- A proficient public service is vital for creating a favourable investment climate and facilitating people’s participation in economic life.

For this to be fruitful, a **public servant must ensure that he possesses the following virtues:**

- **Integrity:** It ensures that public servants work with the honesty of highest standards.
- **Non – partisanship:** this is a must to ensure an inclusive reach of services and that there is no injustice.
- **Objectivity:** This helps take decisions with rationality and logic.
- **Humility:** the actions must not be high-handed and should be free of any vanity.



- **Transparency and Accountability:** this increases the credibility and public trust on the public services.
- **Compassion:** this guarantees that the relationship between the citizens and service provider is firm and based on trust.

Conclusion:

Public service in both the developed and developing world has significant contribution in providing public goods, such as defence, public order, property rights, macro-economic management, basic education, public health, disaster relief, protection of environment, and managing private sector activity.

What is ethical climate? Why is ethical climate important? Discuss with relevant examples. (250 words)

Ethics by Lexicon publications

Why this question:

The question is based on the concept of Ethical climate and its importance.

Key demand of the question:

Explain the principle of ethical climate, its relevance and significance in detail.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Define what you understand by Ethical climate.

Body:

Explain that Ethical climate is the culture of an organization as it pertains to questions of right and wrong. It derives from the governance, values, norms and habits that exist within an organization.

Ethical climate results from both a firm's history and its leadership.

Discuss the key features in detail. Provide for illustrations wherever necessary.

Explain the advantages and need for good ethical climate and relate its relevance to the Governance.

Conclusion:

Conclude with way forward.

Introduction:

Ethical climate is the culture of an organization as it pertains to questions of right and wrong. It derives from the governance, values, norms and habits that exist within an organization. Ethical climate results from both a firm's history and its leadership. Generally speaking, poor ethical practices at the top of an organization translate to a poor ethical climate.

Body:

Importance:

- Ethical climate is focused on the ethical aspects of decision making and actions of members of an organization. Ethics provides the values and morals that an individual, organization or society finds desirable or appropriate (Northhouse, 2015).



- An organization's ethical climate is important because it can improve employee morale, enrich organizational commitment, and foster an involved and retained workforce.
- Organization and Ethical climate are important because these conditions will impact the behavior, motivation and effectiveness of the workforce.
- These forces if positive and supportive can strengthen and increase morale and productivity, but when caustic and destructive, can cause withdrawal, dysfunctional and unwanted behaviors.
- Organization climate is important because it can be a driver and indicator of job performance, psychological wellbeing and withdrawal of individuals in an organization

Conclusion:

Ethical climates develop as a result of organizational policies, practices, and leadership, and exert significant influence on the ethical decision making of organizational members and their subsequent attitudes and behavior at work.

Ethical issues in international relations and funding;

In the fast-paced world, laced with many issues, the importance of ethics in international relations is much higher and needed today than ever. Examine.

Reference

Why this question:

The question is based on the theme of ethics in international relations.

Key demand of the question:

One must discuss the relevance of ethics in international relations.

Directive:

Examine – When asked to 'Examine', we have to look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

What do you understand by ethics in international relations.

Body:

Explain first that Ethics is the study of the moral code of conduct or the ideal behavior to be sought by the human beings. It provides guidance to the realm of international relations as well.

significance of ethics in the international relations can be understood as:

adherence to the human rights

accountability

To avoid the "ego clash" & "ideological clash" between two or more nations.

ethics aim at "peaceful world", "respect for all" & "equality" while forming international organizations, declarations & forums.

ethics of cooperation in the issues like combating law and order problems, with cross-border impacts.

ethics of standing by the countries that are facing insurgencies, and domestic civil wars.

ethics of pitching for a transparent system in the international financial administration.

globalization has rendered borders, useless. increasing trade balance between developed and

underdeveloped countries is the cause of concern. mindless exploitation of these countries' resources cannot be ignored. it requires a more empathetic view from developed nations.

it reduces tensions between countries and avoids war-like situations.

**Conclusion:**

Conclude with way forward.

Introduction:

In today's borderless world, there are a lot of interactions at various levels (country, professional, personal). The difference in the value systems and diversity makes Ethics in International relations imperative. Ethics provides guidance to the people in their international affairs.

Body:

Importance of ethics in IR:

- **Legitimacy:**
 - Ethics does its work in the world by granting and withdrawing legitimacy. History shows that the mitigation and cessation of unjust practices ultimately comes from the assertion of core values.
 - The end of slavery began with various revolutions and rebellions—yet the source of its ultimate demise was its loss of moral legitimacy.
 - Communism, for the most part, ended in similar fashion. The Soviet Union collapsed when the values that held it together were no longer credible and sustainable. Its legitimacy evaporated.
- **Rights and Responsibilities:**
 - Rights are protections and entitlements in relation to corresponding duties and responsibilities.
 - There have been many attempts at forging general agreement on the composition of human rights—the best known being the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the United Nations Charter, the Geneva Conventions, and additional international agreement such as the Refugee Convention.
- **Pluralism:**
 - Ideology presents a significant hurdle. Many political ideologies—"isms" and doctrines that are absolute and universal—result in what Hans Morgenthau called "the crusading spirit."
 - Absolutes and moral abstractions in politics can be problematic for the ethicist. Ideologies like nationalism, Marxism, communism, religious fundamentalism and even Western liberalism in the wrong hands, have been great simplifiers, prone to excesses of political operators who use them to cloak their political interests in the guise of high-minded moral purpose.
- **Peace and Harmony:**
 - Ethics aim at "Peaceful World", "Respect for All" & "Equality" while forming international organizations, declarations & forums. E.g.: The demand for equality in IMF & UNO shows the demand of adhering to ethics in a way.
- **Solidarity:**



- Natural disasters and refugee crisis situations require a more compassionate view of the global community. These are not isolated events and rather, a duty of every global citizen to help in the times of crisis.
- g.- Aid during natural disasters (Nepal earthquake)
- **Fairness:**
 - Fairness addresses normative standards for appropriate contribution, equal regard and just desert.
 - Contemporary methods for thinking through these standards include John Rawls's "difference principle," Amartya Sen's "capabilities approach," Peter Singer's "one world," and Kwame Anthony Appiah's "cosmopolitanism" just to name a few.
- **Others:**
 - Ethics helps to avoid the "Ego Clash" & "Ideological Clash" between two or more nations.
 - For instance, the disruption between India & Pakistan relation can be avoided if both take a decision based on ethics.

However, there are instances where ethics in IR has gone overboard:

- The alleged just war cause where a country thinks it's their moral responsibility to save the world. E.g.: USA and Iraq war.
- Threat to the Rules based order of the world by side-lining of the Global bodies like UNSC, WTO etc.
- Increasing Multilateral groupings to satisfy their personal interests.

Conclusion:

Ethics helps to avoid undue wars, conflicts and provide an ecosystem where there is mutual trust, goodwill, and confidence among all the Countries and helps to foster International Relations.

Conditional Funding is regarded as both an "Effective" and "Less Drastic Means".

Discuss (250 words).

Ethics by Lexicon

The Guardian

DE Gruyter

Why this question:

In addition to its easy availability, conditional funding is regarded as both an effective and in comparison with legal prohibitions, less drastic tool for the prevention of discrimination. Such conditions are thought to be efficient because they increase the relative cost of the discriminatory practice and in doing so create an economical incentive to avoid discrimination.

Key demand of the question:

Discuss in detail the challenges related to conditional funding provided to the countries in need of funds.

Directive:

Discuss- this is an all-encompassing directive which mandates us to write in detail about the key demand of the question. we also have to discuss about the related and important aspects of the



question in order to bring out a complete picture of the issue in hand.

Structure of the answer

Introduction:

write a few introductory lines about the term conditionality. E.g. Conditionality is a concept which describes the use of conditions attached to a loan, debt relief, bilateral aid or membership of international organizations, typically by the international financial institutions, regional organizations or donor countries.

Body:

Discuss the ethical issues raised by conditional funding in international arena. E.g.

- The donors shape the policy framework and strategies through impositions, seriously undermining the rights, choices and decisions of the people to determine their own demands and actions needed for their own development.
- Local societal diversities and local ownership are ignored.
- Policy conditions can interfere with the formation of an independent and mature democracy and political framework.
- Democratic ownership implies mutual accountability, transparency, and participation in policies and programmes, where both donors and governments feel equal, sharing.
- Domination by the government or the donors in the process undermines the basic principles of democratic ownership etc.

Also, explain how conditional funding is effective. E.g.:

Conclusion:

Based on your discussion, form a fair and a balanced conclusion on the given issue.

Introduction:

Conditional funding is a concept which describes the use of conditions attached to a loan, debt relief, bilateral aid or membership of international organizations, typically by the international financial institutions, regional organizations or donor countries. Example: IMF's loan to India during the financial crisis of 1991.

Body:

Conditional Funding is regarded as both an "Effective" and "Less Drastic Means:

- In an age in which the regulatory state frequently deals with spending, licensing, and employment, the use of allocating powers is perceived as an appealing means by which to prevent discriminatory practices against individuals within illiberal communities.
- In addition to its easy availability, conditional funding is regarded as both an effective and in comparison with legal prohibitions less drastic tool for the prevention of discrimination.
- Such conditions are thought to be efficient because they increase the relative cost of the discriminatory practice and in doing so create an economic incentive to avoid discrimination.
- Moreover, these conditions are thought to be less-coercive (in comparison with criminal law), because they still allow those subject to them to choose between the more expensive option of discrimination and the cheaper option of non-discrimination.
- In other words, these conditions are perceived as "Less Drastic Means."

Concerns:

- When applied to the poor such conditionality is not less coercive than prohibitions in criminal law.



- It is more than reasonable to assume that attempts to rectify this flaw by exempting poor people from conditional funding will render such funding ineffective in preventing discrimination.
- When one takes into account both the problem of the commodification of values and the inequality between rich and poor
- the use of conditional funding as a means of promoting liberal values will, in most cases, be unjust.
- If we believe that the antidiscrimination principle has a lexical priority over a parent's right to educate their children in accordance to their culture, we should choose the path of prohibition and abandon that of conditional funding.

The various ethical issues that are related to International funding are:

- **“Me First” Attitude:** The developed countries are moving towards protectionism and an attitude of self-centrism. This goes against the moral responsibility of humanity to help other humans. Example: USA's moving out of Paris Climate deal has now cast an aspersion on Global Climate Fund.
- **Harsh terms and conditions:** The donors shape the policy framework and strategies through impositions, seriously undermining the rights, choices and decisions of the people to determine their own demands and actions needed for their own development. Example: China's vulture capitalism policies of sucking countries into debt.
- **Ethnocentrism:** Local societal diversities and local ownership are ignored by conditionality. Example: Global Gag Rule by USA
- **Against Democratic values:** Aid conditionality infringes on countries democracy and sovereignty. Policy conditions can interfere with the formation of independent and mature democracy and political framework. Example: Neo-colonial policies followed by few developed Countries.
- **Economic policy decisions, such as whether to privatize essential services or liberalize trade barriers within any given country developing or developed should be made by national governments and not influenced by leverage of increased external funding.** Example: The IB report revealed that certain foreign funded NGO's were trying to stall developmental process in India and in turn affect its Growth.
- **Human rights:** Issue of government funding for international NGO's as many of these do accept funds from developed countries. Their independence and legitimacy is therefore suspected by the government of host countries especially by the less than democratic governments.

Way Forward:

- International funding should be based on the principles of Utilitarianism.
- Emulate the global best practices. Example: Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Malaria works, as one important example. It's a model of success.
- The concept of Global Social Justice should be upheld.



- Humanitarian Aid should be the motive of International Funding. Example: Building houses in war-torn Jaffna region by India, Parliament house and schools in Afghanistan.

Conclusion:

According to John Rawls, it is our duty as help others living “under unfavorable conditions that prevent their having a just or decent political and social regime”. This should be the mantra for International Funding.

Probity in Governance: Concept of public service; Philosophical basis of governance and probity; Information sharing and transparency in government, Right to Information, Codes of Ethics, Codes of Conduct, Citizen’s Charters, Work culture, Quality of service delivery, Utilization of public funds, challenges of corruption.

The concept of Citizens’ Charter enshrines the trust between the service provider and its users. What aspects should be covered by an ideal Citizen’s Charter? Do you think Citizen’s Charter should also be made compulsory for government organizations? (250 words)

Why this question:

The question is about discussing the need for Ideal citizen’s charter in governmental organization and its significance.

Key demand of the question:

The question is about analyzing the significance of citizen’s charter and its need in governmental organisation.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

In a few introductory lines define citizen’s charter.

Body:

The question is straightforward, thus doesn’t require much deliberation, one must discuss the concept of Citizen’s charter in detail, its importance and relevance to public organizations.

What are the components of a Citizen’s Charter?

road map to be adopted to formulate the Citizen’s Charter.

Students can quote best principles adopted by public organizations to make the charter ideal.

Conclusion:

Conclude with significance of such tools in good governance..

Introduction:

A Citizens’ Charter represents the commitment of the Organization towards standard, quality and time frame of service delivery, grievance redress mechanism, transparency and accountability. The concept of Citizens Charter enshrines the trust between the service provider and its users.

Body:

Following should be covered by an ideal Citizen’s Charter:

- Vision and Mission Statement;



- Details of Business transacted by the Organization;
- Details of clients;
- Details of services provided to each client group;
- Details of grievance redress mechanism and how to access it;
- Expectations from the clients
- Additional commitments such as compensation in the event of failure of service delivery.

Citizen's Charter should also be made compulsory for government organizations because:

- To make administration accountable and citizen friendly.
- To ensure transparency.
- To take measures to improve customer service.
- To adopt a stakeholder approach.
- To save time of both Administration and the citizen

Problems faced in implementing the Charters:

- The general perception of organizations which formulated Citizens' Charters was that the exercise was to be carried out because there was a direction from the top. The consultation process was minimal or largely absent. It thus became one of the routine activities of the organization and had no focus.
- For any Charter to succeed, the employees responsible for its implementation should have proper training and orientation, as commitments of the Charter cannot be expected to be delivered by a workforce that is unaware of the spirit and content of the Charter. However, in many cases, the concerned staff were not adequately trained and sensitized.
- Sometimes, transfers and reshuffles of concerned officers at the crucial stages of formulation/implementation of a Citizens' Charter in an organization severely undermined the strategic processes which were put in place and hampered the progress of the initiative.
- Awareness campaigns to educate clients about the Charter were not conducted systematically.
- In some cases, the standards/time norms of services mentioned in Citizens' Charter were either too lax or too tight and were, therefore, unrealistic and created an unfavorable impression on the clients of the Charter.
- The concept behind the Citizens' Charter was not properly understood. Information brochures, publicity materials, pamphlets produced earlier by the organizations were mistaken for Citizens' Charters.

Way forward:

- **Wide consultation process:** CC be formulated after extensive consultations within the organization followed by a meaningful dialogue with civil society.



- **Participatory process:** Include Civil Society in the process: to assist in improvement in the contents of the Charter, its adherence as well as educating the citizens about the importance of this vital mechanism.
- **Firm commitments to be made:** CC must be precise and make firm commitments of service delivery standards to the citizens/consumers in quantifiable terms wherever possible.
- **Redressal mechanism in case of default:** clearly lay down the relief which the organization is bound to provide if it has defaulted on the promised standards of delivery.
- **One size does not fit all:** formulation of CC should be a decentralized activity with the head office providing only broad guidelines.
- **Periodic updation of CC:** preferably through an external agency.
- **Fix responsibility:** Hold officers accountable for results: fix specific responsibility in cases where there is a default in adhering to the CC.

Conclusion:

Citizen's Charter is playing a prominent part in ensuring "minimum government & maximum governance", changing the nature of charters from non-justiciable to justiciable & adopting penalty measures that will make it more efficient & citizen friendly.

Good governance index has been scientifically designed to reflect various parameters of governance. Discuss in detail the key features of GGI and the role it plays in measuring governance. (250 words)

Indian Express

Why this question:

Recently, Minister of State for Personnel Jitendra Singh launched the Good Governance Index (GGI). December 25, the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, was declared Good Governance Day by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in 2014.

Key demand of the question:

Discuss the key features of GGI and the role it plays in measuring governance.

Directive:

Discuss – This is an all-encompassing directive – you have to debate on paper by going through the details of the issues concerned by examining each one of them. You have to give reasons for both for and against arguments.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Explain what you understand by Good Governance.

Body:

According to a Good Governance Index Report submitted to the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, "Good governance can be referred as an effective and efficient process of decisionmaking and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented) keeping the amelioration of citizens as the topmost priority. Resource allocation, creation of formal establishments, setting up rules and regulations etc., are part of achieving this goal.

Define what is GGI – GGI is a uniform tool that will help in assessing the status of governance and the impact of interventions undertaken by governments across all states and UTs.

Discuss its key features and objectives in detail.

Highlight the performance of Indian states on the GGI.

**Conclusion:**

Conclude with its significance.

Introduction:

Good governance index (GGI) is a uniform tool that will help in assessing the status of governance and the impact of interventions undertaken by governments across all states and UTs, as per the press release issued by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions. Good Governance Day is observed on the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee (25th December). It was observed for the first time in 2014.

Body:

Good governance can be referred as an effective and efficient process of decision-making and the process by which decisions are implemented (or not implemented) keeping the amelioration of citizens as the topmost priority. Resource allocation, creation of formal establishments, setting up rules and regulations etc., are part of achieving this goal.

Key features of GGI:

- The objectives of GGI are to provide quantifiable data to compare the state of governance in all states and UTs, enable states and UTs to formulate and implement suitable strategies for improving governance and shift to result oriented approaches and administration.
- Various principles have been kept in mind while selecting the indicators, i.e. it should be easy to understand & calculate, citizen-centric & result driven, leading to improved results and applicable to all states and UTs, among others.
- Various consultation meetings were held with the stakeholders, including consultations with sector experts, ministries, states & UTs.

Key Findings of the first GGI Report:

- **Top performers among the big states:** Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Chhattisgarh, Andhra Pradesh and Gujarat. The bottom six states are Odisha, Bihar, Goa, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand.
- **Among the North-East & Hill States:** Top 3 states are Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Tripura. The bottom 3 states are Meghalaya, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh.
- Pondicherry leads among the UTs followed closely by Chandigarh with Delhi bagging the third spot. Lakshadweep is at the bottom among the UTs.
- **Sector-wise ranking:** In the environment sector:
 - The top three states are West Bengal, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
 - The bottom 3 states are Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and Goa.
- **Judicial and public security ranking:** West Bengal is at the bottom two in the judicial and public security ranking. Tamil Nadu tops the chart here.
- **Economic governance:** Karnataka is at the top under the economic governance category.
- **Health:** Kerala is at the top in the public health sector.

GGI's role in measuring governance:



- The GGI takes into consideration ten sectors: 1). Agriculture and Allied Sectors, 2). Commerce & Industries, 3). Human Resource Development, 4). Public Health, 5). Public Infrastructure & Utilities, 6). Economic Governance, 7). Social Welfare & Development, 8). Judicial & Public Security, 9). Environment and 10). Citizen-Centric Governance.
- These ten Governance Sectors are measured on total 50 indicators.
- Difference indicators are given different weightage under one Governance Sector to calculate the value. E.g. Under Agriculture & Allied Sector, there are 6 indicators with different weightage, namely: Growth rate of agriculture and allied sector (0.4), growth rate of food grains production (0.1), growth rate of horticulture produce (0.1), growth rate of milk production (0.1), growth rate of meat production (0.1) and crop insurance (0.2).
- The states and UTs are divided into three groups: a). Big States, b). North-East & Hill States and c). UTs.
- The states and UTs are ranked on all indicators separately, at the same time composite ranking is also calculated for these states and UTs under their respective groups based upon these indicators.

Conclusion:

It goes without saying that the GGI requires fine-tuning and improvement. But that does not take away the inherent strength of the work that has been accomplished, keeping in mind India's size and complexity.



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