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incompetence. The collapse of the statue has not only hurt the sentiments of the local community but has also brought into question the integrity of the public officials involved in the project. Amid the uproar, you have received instructions from higher authorities to investigate the incident thoroughly. However, there is also mounting pressure from political figures to quickly issue a public apology to pacify the community and contain the situation..... 52

In the given circumstance answer the following:..... 52

Identify the key stakeholders in the case. 52

a) What are the ethical issues involved in the case? 52

b) What leadership qualities are essential in handling this situation, and how would you demonstrate them to restore public trust? [20M] 52

Q. Recently, the government of your state proposed a budget that projected a revenue deficit of ₹20,000 crore for the current fiscal year. In response to this challenging financial situation, it was recommended that the state should implement stringent measures to curb spending and tighten its budgetary controls. However, a few months later, a new proposal was presented to the government concerning the development of a project known as "Skydeck." The Skydeck project, which involves the construction of a high-profile structure in the city, was estimated to cost between ₹400 to ₹500 crore. Despite the pressing need to address the revenue deficit, the government decided to take the initiative and support the proposal for the Skydeck project. This decision was made with the intention of enhancing the city's image and attracting a significant number of tourists, which the government believed would ultimately benefit the state's economy. Rakshit, a dedicated member of a local NGO, raised concerns about the Skydeck project. He argued that, given the current financial constraints and the projected revenue deficit, the allocation of such a substantial sum for the Skydeck project seemed unwarranted. Rakshit pointed out that there was no shortage of private entities capable of executing the project without imposing any financial burden on the state exchequer. 53

Identify the key stakeholders and ethical issues involved in this case. 53

Is it ethical for the government to use public funds for a high-profile project like the Skydeck when there are significant financial shortfalls? What principles should be used to ensure the judicious utilization of public funds? [20M] 53

Q. As a police inspector in a town renowned for its peace and religious harmony, you receive a report about a robbery that took place at Arun's Fair Price Shop. Upon arriving at the scene and conducting an initial inquiry, you learn that Arun has accused two individuals, Adil and Pasha, of attempting to rob his shop in the afternoon. According to Arun, when he confronted them, they not only tried to steal from the shop but also attempted to physically assault his child, who was present at the scene. Arun's quick actions to alert the local community led to a crowd gathering, which prompted Adil and Pasha to flee. Initially, you assumed this was a straightforward robbery case. However, later in the evening, Adil and Pasha voluntarily presented themselves at the police station. During their statements, they revealed that the root of the conflict was not merely theft but rather a dispute over the distribution of food. They alleged that Arun had been systematically discriminating against certain individuals based on their religion in the food distribution process. Their attempt to address this issue with Arun had apparently escalated into a physical altercation. After conducting a thorough and detailed investigation, you find that both Arun and Adil's accounts of the incident hold validity. Arun's complaint about the robbery and physical assault, as well as Adil and Pasha's allegations of religious discrimination, are both substantiated by evidence and testimonies. 56

In the given circumstance answer the following:.....	56
Identify the key stakeholders in case.	56
a) What are the ethical dilemmas involved in this case?.....	56
b) What are the options available to you in the given case?	56
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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. Human Values - Lessons from the Lives and Teachings of Great Leaders, Reformers and Administrators; Role of Family Society and Educational Institutions in Inculcating Values.

Topic: Technology and ethics.

Q. “An AI ethics council is very critical for the success of the AI projects in the longer term which require leaders to address strategies and methods related to the ethical development of AI”. Discuss [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [Economic Times](#)

Why the question: IBM's AI Ethics Board is co-chaired by Francesca Rossi, an IBM fellow and AI ethics global leader, along with Christina Montgomery, the company’s chief privacy and trust officer.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by giving context or writing an introduction on AI ethics.

Body:

- First, write about the role of the AI ethics council in the development of AI.
- Then write about the limitations.
- Lastly recommend some suggestions.

Conclusion: Write a quote on AI ethics and conclude.

Topic: Technology and ethics.

Q. “An AI ethics council is very critical for the success of the AI projects in the longer term which require leaders to address strategies and methods related to the ethical development of AI”. Discuss [10M]

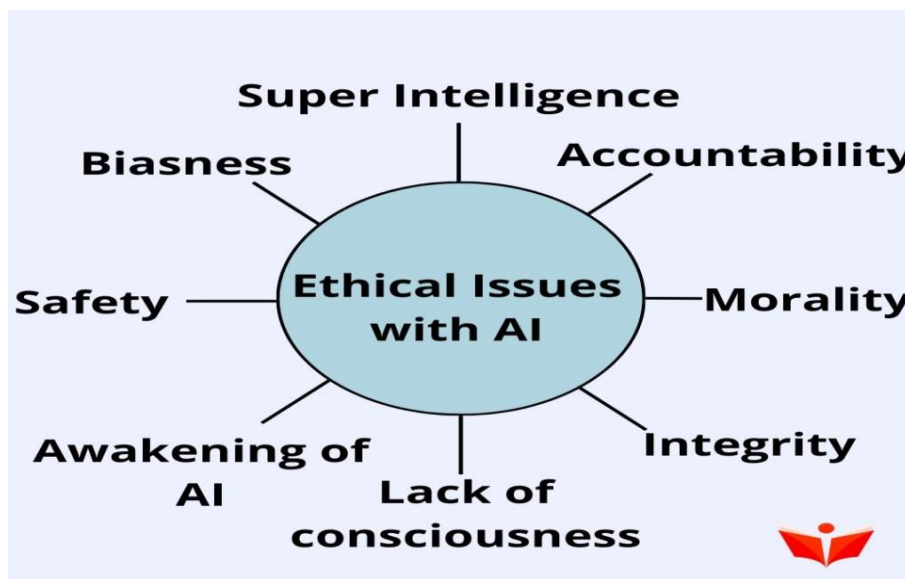
Introduction:

AI technologies are rapidly advancing, and their integration into various aspects of life raises ethical concerns. An AI ethics council plays a pivotal role in **guiding the ethical development and deployment of AI systems**, ensuring that these technologies benefit society while minimizing potential harm.

Body:

Role of the AI ethics council:

1. **Guiding ethical frameworks:** The council provides ethical guidelines that help developers create AI systems that align with societal values and respect human rights.
E.g. Code of ethics and code of conduct.
2. **Ensuring accountability:** It promotes transparency and accountability in AI development, ensuring that AI systems are fair, and unbiased, and do not discriminate.
E.g. Hiroshima pact, 2023.
3. **Risk mitigation:** The council identifies potential risks associated with AI, such as data privacy issues, and proposes strategies to mitigate these risks.
E.g. Google cars and risk mitigation strategy.
4. **Promoting inclusive development:** It advocates for the inclusion of diverse perspectives in AI development, ensuring that AI systems consider the needs and values of different communities.



Limitations of the AI ethics council:

1. **Lack of enforcement power:** The council often lacks the authority to enforce ethical guidelines, relying on voluntary compliance from AI developers and organizations.
E.g. Lack of international institutional mechanism.
2. **Dynamic nature of AI:** The rapid evolution of AI technologies can outpace the council’s ability to keep up with new ethical challenges, leading to gaps in guidance.

E.g. Google Gemini biased information issue.

3. **Conflict of interest:** There may be conflicts between ethical guidelines and the commercial interests of AI developers, making it difficult to implement.

E.g. Profit vs ethics issue.

4. **Global variation:** Ethical standards and cultural values vary globally, making it challenging to establish universally accepted ethical guidelines for AI.

Suggestions for improvement:

1. **Strengthen regulatory frameworks:** Establish legal frameworks that give the AI ethics council the power to enforce ethical guidelines.
2. **Continuous education:** Provide ongoing training and education for AI developers on ethical considerations, ensuring they are aware of the latest ethical standards.
3. **International collaboration:** Foster global collaboration to create harmonized ethical standards that can be applied across different countries and cultures.
4. **Public engagement:** Involve the public in discussions about AI ethics, ensuring that the development of AI systems aligns with the broader societal interest.

Conclusion:

The AI ethics council is vital for ensuring that AI technologies develop in a way that benefits society while minimizing harm. As AI continues to evolve, it is crucial that ethical considerations remain at the forefront of its development. As stated by Wendell Wallach, **"Ethics will be the key determinant of the success of AI."**

Topic: Values in ethics.

Q. "The greatest religion in the world is humanity, which is now found in only a few people." Do you agree with this view? Justify your stand. [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [Brighter Kashmir](#)

Why the question:

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin with a definition of humanity or give context.

Body:

- First, explain why humanity is the greatest religion.
- Then, explain why humanity is declining in the world.
- Briefly mention the case where humanity persists in the world.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing an ethical philosophy or quote.

Topic: Values in ethics.

Q. "The greatest religion in the world is humanity, which is now found in only a few people." Do you agree with this view? Justify your stand. [10M]

Introduction:

Humanity, often defined as the quality of being **compassionate, empathetic, and considerate towards others**, transcends religious and cultural boundaries. It represents a universal ethos of kindness and respect, reflecting the essence of what it means to be human.

Body:

Humanity is the greatest religion

- **Universal compassion and empathy:** Humanity promotes compassion and empathy, essential for societal well-being, encouraging respect and support across all boundaries.
- **Moral foundation:** It offers a universal moral foundation focused on fairness, justice, and altruism, guiding ethical behavior for the common good.

E.g. Base for values and morals.

- **Inclusivity:** Unlike some religions that may exclude groups, humanity fosters inclusivity and equal treatment for all, promoting a harmonious society.

E.g. Gender equality especially in Scandinavian nations.

Humanity in decline

- **Increasing social inequality:** Rising social and economic inequalities overshadow humanity's ideals, widening the gap between rich and poor.
- **Erosion of ethical standards:** Corruption and exploitation are prevalent, undermining humanity's core values as self-interest takes precedence over common.

E.g. India ranks 93rd in the corruption perception index, 2023.

- **Conflict and division:** Global conflicts and sectarian violence often overshadow humanitarian principles, neglecting fundamental human rights.

E.g. Israel – Gaza war

Humanity persisting in the world

- **Acts of kindness and solidarity:** Despite challenges, humanity persists through acts of kindness during crises, showing that compassion can transcend boundaries.

E.g. Langar food charity.

Conclusion:

As Albert Schweitzer wisely noted, "**The purpose of human life is to serve and to show compassion and the will to help others.**" Embracing humanity in its truest sense

requires continuous effort to overcome inequality, uphold ethical standards, and foster global solidarity.

Q. Do you believe that introducing lateral entry could weaken the 'public' nature of the civil services? Justify your opinion [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Why the question: UPSC has brought the issue of lateral entry into civil services back into focus by inviting applications for 45 posts, from talented and motivated Indian nationals for the roles in 24 Union government ministries.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by explaining lateral entry or giving context.

Body:

- First, explain the advantages of lateral entry.
- Then, explain the limitation of lateral entry.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing a quote or way ahead.

Topic: Governance.

Q. Do you believe that introducing lateral entry could weaken the 'public' nature of the civil services? Justify your opinion [10M]

Introduction:

Recently the central government has made its largest push for lateral entry into civil services, with the **UPSC advertising 45 posts across various ministries**. These positions include 10 joint secretaries and 35 director/deputy secretaries, to be filled on a contract basis.

Body:

Lateral entry refers to the induction of specialists, often from the private sector, into senior roles within government organizations. This approach is intended to infuse fresh talent, specialized knowledge, and new perspectives into public administration.

Advantages of Lateral Entry:

1. **Specialized skills:** Lateral entry enables the government to bring in professionals with expertise in fields like technology, finance, and management.

E.g. Experienced expertise.

2. **Innovation:** Professionals from diverse sectors can introduce innovative practices and reform administrative processes, enhancing governance effectiveness.

E.g. Out of the box thinking at office.

3. **Filling gaps:** With a significant shortage of IAS officers, lateral entry can help bridge this gap, ensuring that critical government positions are filled by competent professionals.

E.g. DoPT data show 1500 IAS officer shortage.

4. **Cultural shift:** Introducing lateral entry can challenge and potentially reduce bureaucratic red-tapism, promoting a more efficient and results-driven work culture.

E.g. Technocratic appointment.

5. **Participatory governance:** Lateral entry encourages a more inclusive approach to governance by allowing stakeholders from the private sector and non-profits to contribute to policy-making and implementation.

Limitations of lateral entry:

1. **Short tenure:** The three-year tenure for joint secretaries is often too short for lateral entrants to fully acclimate and make a significant impact.

E.g. Only 3 year of service.

2. **Conflict of interest:** May bring biases from their previous roles, potentially compromising the objectivity and neutrality expected in public service.
3. **Impact on morale:** The increasing presence of lateral entrants might create tension between them and career civil servants, potentially affecting the morale of permanent officers.

E.g. Lack of foundational value like service attitude.

4. **Dilution of merit-based recruitment:** lateral entry could undermine the traditional merit-based recruitment system, leading to concerns about favouritism.

E.g. Favoured appointments.

5. **Outsider syndrome:** Traditional bureaucrats may resist the inclusion of lateral entrants, viewing them as outsiders, which could lead to integration challenges.

E.g. Impact coordination issue.

Conclusion:

While lateral entry offers the potential for **injecting new skills and perspectives** into civil services, it must be implemented with caution. Ensuring transparency, addressing potential conflicts of interest, and providing adequate training can help harness its benefits without undermining the public character of the civil services

Topic: Values in public office

Q. "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men" Do you agree with this view? [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [Times of India](#)

Why the question: “Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men,” the historian and moralist, who was otherwise known as Acton, expressed this opinion in a letter to Bishop Mandell Creighton in 1887.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin with corruption or mention relevance.

Body:

- First, agree with the statement and explain why power tends to corrupt.
- Then, disagree with the statement on how service-oriented politicians also exist.
- End with a balanced answer.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing an ethical philosophy or quote.

Topic: Conflict of Interest

Q. Examine the ethical implications of conflict of interest in the role of a regulatory official. Discuss how such conflicts can affect decision-making. [10M]

Difficulty level: Moderate

Reference: [Live mint](#)

Why the question: US short-seller Hindenburg Research launched a fresh broadside against market regulator Sebi chairperson Madhabi Buch, alleging she and her husband had stakes in obscure offshore funds used in the Adani money siphoning scandal.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by giving context or define conflict of interest.

Body:

- First, write about the ethical implication of conflict of interest in role of regulator.
- Then mention how it impact decision making.
- Use examples to justify your points.

Conclusion: Conclude by mentioning how to navigate through conflict of interest.

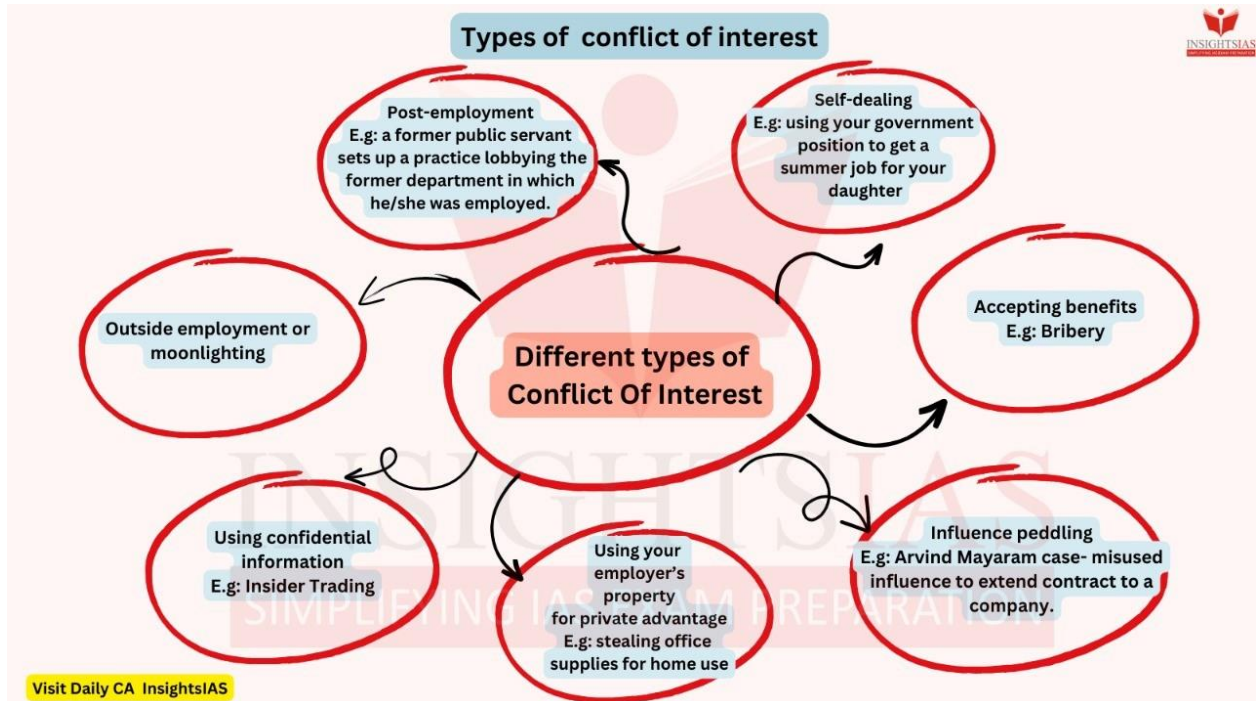
Topic: Conflict of Interest

Q. Examine the ethical implications of conflict of interest in the role of a regulatory official. Discuss how such conflicts can affect decision-making. [10M]

Introduction:

A conflict of interest occurs when a regulatory official's **personal interests conflict with their duty to make impartial decisions**, posing significant ethical challenges and undermining public trust. Recently **SEBI head** is accused of Conflict of interest in office.

Body:



Ethical implications of conflict of interest:

1. **Erosion of public trust:** Public confidence in regulatory fairness diminishes when conflicts of interest are present, leading to skepticism and mistrust.

E.g. Hindenburg allegation on SEBI head.

2. **Compromise of ethical standards:** Officials may prioritize personal gain over ethical duties, weakening the integrity, accountability, and fairness essential to public service.

E.g. Kejriwal bail case heard by accused kin.

3. **Undermining public welfare:** Decisions driven by personal interests can harm public welfare, as they may not align with the greater good.

E.g. Rishi Sunak row over India trade talk deal.

4. **Risk of corruption:** Conflicts of interest increase the likelihood of corruption, as officials might exploit their position for personal benefit.

E.g. Axis bank – Max life deal issue

5. **Inequity in resource allocation:** Resources may be unfairly distributed, favoring those with personal connections over broader public needs.

E.g. Electoral bonds issue.

Impact on decision-making:

1. **Bias in decision-making:** Conflicted officials may make biased decisions that serve personal interests, leading to unjust outcomes.

E.g. Daval buch and misuse of SEBI powers.

2. **Reduced objectivity:** Personal interests can cloud judgment, hindering objective and merit-based decision-making.

E.g. Mis-utilisation of funds

3. **Delays and inefficiency:** Officials may delay decisions to protect personal interests, causing inefficiencies in the regulatory process.

E.g. EU 20 million Ukrainian deal delayed over CoI.

4. **Legal and reputational consequences:** Poor decisions due to conflicts of interest can lead to legal challenges and damage the reputation of both the official and the regulatory body.

E.g. Donald Trump CoI saga with judge.

Conclusion:

To navigate conflicts of interest, regulatory officials must adhere to ethical standards like **transparency, disclosure, and recusal**, ensuring decisions prioritize the public good over personal gain.

Topic: Leadership

Q. “Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say: This is my community, and it’s my responsibility to make it better”. Comment [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [Deccan Herald](#)

Why the question: The transition from heroes-to-zeroes took some time in the Soviet Union, and even Iraq, but the worrisome portents of the ground perceptions changing rapidly in Bangladesh, was a lot earlier.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by giving context or define about leadership

Body:

- First, write about positive ethical principles behind leadership.
- Then mention how current leadership is deviating from it.
- Write how to inculcate the great leadership

Conclusion: Conclude by mentioning significance.

Topic: Leadership

Q. “Heroes are not giant statues framed against a red sky. They are people who say: This is my community, and it’s my responsibility to make it better”. Comment [10M]
Introduction:

Leadership is not merely about power or authority; **it is rooted in ethical responsibility and the commitment to serve one’s community**. True leaders are those who recognize their role in shaping the collective well-being, understanding that their actions must align with moral principles to foster positive change.

Body:



Ethical principles desired in leadership:

1. **Integrity:** A leader's actions must be guided by honesty and transparency, ensuring that decisions are made in the best interest of the community.

E.g. Finland ex-PM taking drug test after party crash incident.

2. **Accountability:** Ethical leaders take responsibility for their actions and decisions, understanding that they must answer to the people they serve.

3. **Empathy:** True leadership involves understanding and addressing the needs and concerns of others, fostering a sense of unity and compassion.

E.g. Gautam Gambhir food charity at Delhi.

4. **Justice:** Leaders must strive to be fair and impartial, ensuring that all individuals are treated equitably and with respect.

E.g. Impartiality during decision making.

5. **Service orientation:** Ethical leadership prioritizes the welfare of the community, placing collective good above personal gain.

E.g. Mohanlal service at Wayanad landslide.

Deviation in current leadership

1. **Corruption**: Some leaders prioritize personal enrichment over community welfare, undermining public trust and ethical standards.

E.g. India rank 93rd in Corruption perception index.

2. **Lack of Accountability**: In many cases, leaders evade responsibility, leading to a culture of impunity and weakened governance.

3. **Manipulation**: Current leadership often uses populism and misinformation to maintain power, deviating from ethical communication and transparency.

E.g. Politicising the issues.

4. **Neglect of vulnerable groups**: Leaders sometimes fail to consider the needs of marginalized communities, exacerbating inequality and injustice.

E.g. Bangladesh student protest.

5. **Short-termism**: Many leaders focus on immediate gains rather than long-term community welfare, sacrificing sustainable development for quick success.

E.g. Freebies and Rewadi culture.

In order to inculcate leadership value:

1. **Ethical education**: Integrating ethics into leadership training can help future leaders develop a strong moral compass.

E.g. RiseUp4Peace initiative for student leadership.

2. **Mentorship**: Experienced ethical leaders can mentor emerging leaders, passing on values of integrity and service.

E.g. Role model and leading way

3. **Civic engagement**: Encouraging leaders to engage directly with their communities fosters empathy and a deeper understanding of public needs.

E.g. India Civic Summit

4. **Transparent systems**: Implementing transparent decision-making processes can hold leaders accountable and reduce opportunities for corruption.

E.g. Accountable in parliament and media house.

5. **Promotion of altruism**: Cultivating a culture that values selflessness and public service can inspire leaders to prioritize community welfare over personal gain.

Conclusion:

Great leadership is the **cornerstone of a thriving society, built on the pillars of ethical responsibility, integrity, and service**. As leaders navigate complex challenges, adhering to these principles ensures they contribute positively to the community's well-being and development.

Attitude: Content, Structure, Function; its Influence and Relation with Thought and Behaviour; Moral and Political Attitudes; Social Influence and Persuasion.

Topic: Emotional intelligence.

Q. What are the psychological challenges experienced by disaster survivors, and how can they be addressed to overcome such trauma? [10M]

Difficulty level: Moderate

Reference: [The Hindu](#)

Why the question: As news of the devastating landslide in Wayanad spread across a shell-shocked Kerala, residents in Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi, and other districts swung into action.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by writing the recent disaster context.

Body:

- First, explain what psychological challenges for disaster survivors are.
- Then, suggest a measure through which it can be overcome.
- Use examples to justify your points.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing ethical philosophy or quote.

Topic: Emotional intelligence.

Q. What are the psychological challenges experienced by disaster survivors, and how can they be addressed to overcome such trauma? [10M]

Introduction:

Disaster survivors often grapple with profound psychological impacts that challenge their sense of stability and peace. Addressing these psychological challenges through ethical and empathetic means is essential for aiding recovery and restoring well-being.

Body:

Psychological challenges faced by disaster survivors:

1. **Post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD):** Survivors may experience flashbacks, nightmares, and severe anxiety related to the trauma.

E.g. WHO reports an estimated 3.9% of the world population has experienced PTSD at some point in their lives.

2. **Depression:** Loss and upheaval can lead to sadness, hopelessness, and disinterest in daily activities.

E.g. Research shows depression is the most common outcome post-disaster.

3. **Survivor's guilt:** Feeling guilty for having survived when others did not can lead to deep-seated guilt and self-blame.

E.g. The “Sole Survivor” documentary shows Galaxy Airlines Flight crash survivor guilt.

4. **Anxiety and hypervigilance:** Constant worry about future disasters or safety can lead to heightened anxiety and excessive alertness.

E.g. Recurring panic attacks.

5. **Disrupted social relationships:** Trauma can strain relationships, leading to withdrawal, irritability, and communication difficulties.

E.g. Isolation and trauma leading to relationship spoiling.

Strategies to overcome trauma:

1. **Professional counseling:** Therapy can provide coping strategies and emotional support, helping process trauma and reduce symptoms.

E.g. Psychologist and therapist consultation.

2. **Support groups:** Sharing experiences with others who have faced similar situations can reduce isolation and provide community support.

E.g. Amrita Hospital work in Wayanad.

3. **Self-care:** Regular exercise, healthy eating, and relaxation techniques can help manage stress and improve well-being.

E.g. Yoga, meditation, and traveling to peaceful places.

4. **Normalizing activities:** Engaging in familiar routines and activities that bring joy can help rebuild a sense of normalcy.

E.g. Social gatherings and attending community functions.

5. **Social support:** Maintaining connections with friends and family and communicating openly about needs can alleviate emotional burdens.

E.g. Family, friends, and relatives empathy and compassion.

Conclusion:

As Viktor Frankl noted, "**When we are no longer able to change a situation, we are challenged to change ourselves.**" By fostering resilience and providing empathetic care, we honor the dignity and strength of those who endure the aftermath of disaster.

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.

Topic: Foundational values

Q. Explain the role of empathy in the medical field. Suggest ways to inculcate empathy among medical professionals. [10M]

Difficulty level: Moderate

Reference: [Hindustan Times](#)

Why the question: Empathy and ethics should be the cornerstones of your professional journey, justice DY Chandrachud, the Chief Justice of India, advised young doctors at 37th annual convocation of PGIMER.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining empathy.

Body:

- First, explain role of empathy in medical field.
- Then, suggest measures to inculcate empathy among medical professionals
- Use examples to justify your points.

<p>Hint: Medical field means you can cover research ethics, health care, vaccine development etc and all</p>

Conclusion: Summarize by writing an ethical philosophy or quote.

SECURE

12th August

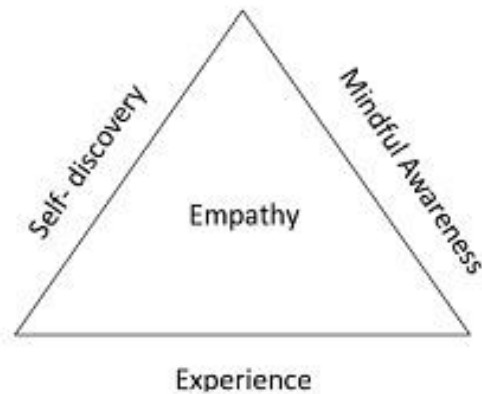
Topic: Foundational values

Q. Explain the role of empathy in the medical field. Suggest ways to inculcate empathy among medical professionals. [10M]

Introduction:

Empathy is the ability to emotionally understand what other people feel, see things from their point of view, and imagine yourself in their place. Essentially, it is putting yourself in someone else's position and feeling what they must be feeling.

Body:



Role of empathy in the medical field:

1. **Doctor-patient relationship:**

- **Enhanced communication:** Empathetic doctors can better communicate with patients, which leads to more accurate diagnoses and effective treatment plans.
- **Trust building:** When patients feel understood and valued, they are more likely to trust their healthcare providers and follow treatment recommendations.

E.g. Familial doctor knows familial history of close patients.

2. **Vaccine development:**

- **Patient-centered research:** Empathetic researchers consider the diverse needs and concerns of different populations, leading to more inclusive and effective vaccine development.
- **Addressing hesitancy:** Empathy helps researchers and public health officials understand and address vaccine hesitancy.

E.g. Developing drugs to orphan diseases.

3. **Medical research:**

- **Ethical considerations:** It ensures that research is conducted with respect for participants' dignity and well-being, and responsible research practices.
- **Improving outcomes:** By understanding the real-world implications of their research, scientists can design studies that better address the needs and challenges faced by patients.

E.g. Euthanasia dilemma.

Ways to inculcate empathy among medical professionals are:

1. **Role-playing scenarios:** Use simulations exercises to allow medical professionals to experience different patient perspectives and practice empathetic responses.

E.g. Training undergraduate students.

2. **Mentorship and reflection:** Establish mentoring relationships where experienced professionals model empathetic behavior to less experienced practitioners.

E.g. Ethics committee under NMC.

3. **Patient feedback:** Analyze feedback from patients regarding their experiences and interactions with healthcare providers to identify areas for improvement.

E.g. My hospital portal under Ministry of Health.

4. **Work environment:** Promote work-life balance and mental health support for medical professionals to reduce burnout and ensure they can remain empathetic.

E.g. Recognition and awards.

5. **Interdisciplinary collaboration:** Encourage collaboration among different healthcare disciplines to build a comprehensive understanding of patient needs and improve empathy.

Conclusion:

Empathy is the ability to see things from another person's perspective and sympathize with another's emotions, it plays an important role in establishing harmony in society.

Empathy is essential for civil services, as in administrative situations, **all relevant viewpoints have to be elicited and suitably accommodated.**

Topic: Foundational values

Q. Altruism is the unselfish concern for other people doing things simply out of a desire to help, not because you feel obligated to out of duty. In this context explain the outcomes of altruism. Is it greater than compassion? Justify your answer [10M]

Difficulty level: Moderate

Reference: [Times of India](#)

Why the question: As news of the devastating landslide in Wayanad spread across a shell-shocked Kerala, residents in Thiruvananthapuram, Kochi, and other districts swung into action. Many of them had organised collection points during the flood in 2018 and so they knew how to go about it.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by writing about altruism or explaining an example of altruism.

Body:

- First, explain the outcome of altruism.
- Then, justify how altruism is greater than compassion
- Use examples to justify your points.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing how to teach these in life.

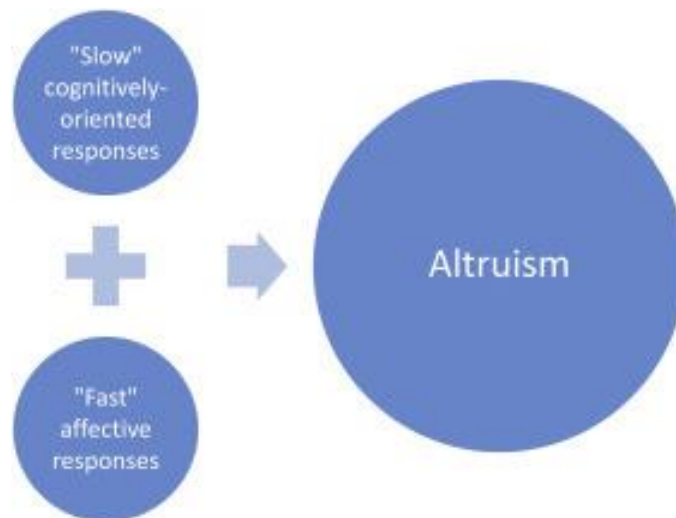
Topic: Foundational values

Q. Altruism is the unselfish concern for other people doing things simply out of a desire to help, not because you feel obligated to out of duty. In this context explain the outcomes of altruism. Is it greater than compassion? Justify your answer [10M]

Introduction:

Altruism is defined as the **selfless concern** for the well-being of others. Actions driven by altruism are performed not because of a sense of duty or obligation but purely out of a desire to help others.

Body:



There are different types of altruism:

1. **Psychological altruism:** Motivations are entirely selfless, aiming to increase others' welfare without any personal gain.
2. **Reciprocal altruism:** Helping others with the expectation that they might help in return, fostering mutual benefit over time.
3. **Moral altruism:** Driven by ethical or moral principles, often associated with a strong sense of justice and fairness.

Outcomes of altruism in life are:

1. **Enhanced well-being:** Altruistic acts are linked to increased happiness and life satisfaction. Helping others can create a sense of fulfillment and joy.
E.g. Maslow's hierarchy of needs.
2. **Stronger social bonds:** Altruistic behavior fosters trust and cooperation within communities, strengthening social networks and creating supportive environments.
E.g. Tata groups social image due to philanthropic works.
3. **Improved mental health:** Engaging in selfless activities can reduce stress, anxiety, and depression by shifting focus away from personal problems to the needs of others.
E.g. Spending time at orphanage help in finding mental peace.

4. **Positive societal impact:** Altruism can lead to societal improvements, such as increased volunteerism, charitable donations, and community support, enhancing overall quality of life.

E.g. Akshya patra foundation food charity.

Altruism is considered greater than compassion for several reasons:

1. **Action-oriented:** Altruism involves taking concrete actions to help others, while compassion is often limited to feelings of empathy and concern.

E.g. Volunteers working in Wayanad landslide region is altruism.

2. **Unconditional help:** Altruism is selfless and not contingent on emotional connections or personal gain, whereas compassion may sometimes be influenced by personal feelings towards the recipient.

E.g. Compassion driven by relationship such as friendship and relations.

3. **Broader impact:** Altruistic actions can have far-reaching consequences and lead to substantial positive changes, while compassion might not always translate into action.

E.g. Mother Theresa aiding poor destitute impacts their personal life.

4. **Sustainable positive feedback:** Altruism creates a cycle of giving and receiving that can perpetuate kindness and support within a community, fostering a culture of selflessness.

E.g. COVID time Sonu sood altruism in sending people home.

Conclusion:

To inculcate altruism, it is essential to **model altruistic behavior, encourage empathy, create opportunities for selfless acts, and celebrate** such behavior to inspire others. Through these efforts, altruism can be nurtured, leading to a more caring and supportive society.

Topic: Transparency

Q. Discuss the role of transparency in mitigating the impact of allegations on public trust and administrative efficiency. [10M]

Difficulty level: Moderate

Reference: [Indian Express](#)

Why the question: Hindenburg Research's charge of going slow on the probe, potentially because its chairperson was invested in funds at the heart of the probe - an allegation market regulator head said was "baseless".

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining transparency or giving context.

Body:

- First, role of transparency in mitigating impact of allegation in public office.
- Then, explain the challenges to transparency
- Use examples to justify your points.

Conclusion: Conclude by mentioning the way ahead.

Topic: Transparency

Q. Discuss the role of transparency in mitigating the impact of allegations on public trust and administrative efficiency. [10M]

Introduction:

Transparency refers to the **clear and open dissemination of information**, ensuring that relevant stakeholders have access to timely, accurate, and comprehensive data. It involves making **decision-making processes, actions, and criteria visible**, thus allowing the public to understand and scrutinize government and organizational practices.

Body:



Transparency and public trust:

1. **Access to information:** Transparency allows the public to access relevant information, reducing suspicions and building trust by making decision-making processes open to scrutiny.

E.g. RTI give public access to information

2. **Visibility of actions:** Openly sharing how decisions are made and actions are taken helps mitigate allegations of corruption and mismanagement.

E.g. RTI revealed RBI didn't support demonetisation in 2016

Transparency and administrative efficiency

1. **Improved accountability:** Transparency ensures officials are held accountable for their actions, reducing opportunities for corruption and inefficiency.

E.g. Keep official in check due to citizenry vigilance.

2. **Enhanced decision-making:** Clear criteria and processes lead to more objective and fair decisions, improving the quality of administrative actions.

E.g. Central public procurement portal and GeM.

3. **Public engagement:** Transparency encourages citizen involvement and feedback, making governance more responsive and effective.

E.g. Swachh Survekshan report.

Limitations to transparency are:

1. **Information overload:** Excessive transparency can lead to information overload, making it difficult for stakeholders to discern relevant details.

E.g. Delhi HC flagged politicisation of RTI.

2. **Privacy concerns:** Disclosure of certain information can infringe on individual privacy, especially if personal or sensitive data is included in public records.

E.g. Seeking personal and inter department information.

3. **Misuse of information:** Publicly available information may be misused or misinterpreted, leading to misinformation or damage to reputations without context.

E.g. Targeting government functions.

4. **Administrative burden:** Implementing and maintaining transparency can impose significant administrative costs and logistical challenges.

Conclusion:

To impart transparency, governments and organizations should adopt clear policies for information dissemination, implement robust whistle-blower protection mechanisms, and promote a culture of openness and accountability.

Topic: Dedication to service

Q. What does this quote mean to you?

“Performance of duty and observance of morality are convertible terms” – Mahatma Gandhi [10M]

Difficulty level: Moderate

Why the question: Question is part of quote Wednesday

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by giving context or ethical philosophy.

Body:

- Write about meaning of ‘Performance of duty’ and ‘Observance of morality’
- Describe how they are convertible terms
- Use examples to justify your points.

Conclusion: Conclude by mentioning the significance or quote.

Topic: Dedication to service

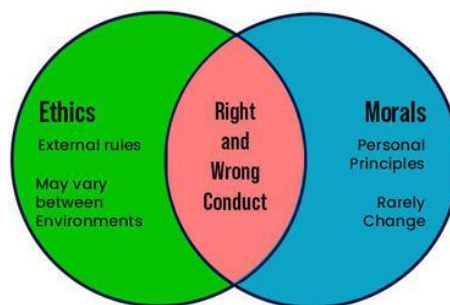
Q. What does this quote mean to you?

“Performance of duty and observance of morality are convertible terms” – Mahatma Gandhi [10M]

Introduction:

The quote highlights the deep connection between one's sense of responsibility and moral principles. This idea suggests that when we fulfill our duties, we inherently uphold moral values, and vice versa.

Body:



The concept of the "performance of duty" encompasses the obligations and responsibilities that individuals have towards themselves, their communities, and the world at large.

E.g. a doctor’s duty to care for patients reflects the moral imperative to preserve life

Observance of morality, on the other hand, refers to the principles and values that guide our behavior, influencing the choices we make and the actions we take.

E.g. India's vaccine diplomacy is based on “One Family” ideals.

The performance of duty and the observance of morality are often seen as interchangeable because fulfilling one's duties typically involves adhering to moral principles. When we perform our duties, we are upholding the moral values that guide our behavior.

E.g. a doctor's duty to provide medical care is rooted in the moral imperative to alleviate suffering and promote health.

Similarly, a teacher's duty to educate is founded on the moral obligation to empower and enlighten students. In this sense, the performance of duty is not merely a mechanical exercise but a deliberate choice to act in accordance with moral principles. Conversely, the

observance of morality is contingent upon the performance of duty. When we fail to fulfill our duties, we compromise our moral integrity.

E.g. A doctor who neglects their patients not only fails in their duty but also contravenes moral principles.

In certain situations, the performance of **duty may conflict with moral principles.** For instance, a soldier's duty may require them to engage in combat, which involves taking lives, an act that may conflict with the moral principle of valuing human life. Similarly, a **journalist's duty to report the truth may conflict with the moral obligation to protect someone's privacy.** In such cases, individuals may face ethical dilemmas where they have to choose between fulfilling their duty and adhering to moral principles. These situations highlight the complexity of the relationship between duty and morality and the challenges individuals may face in aligning their duties with their moral values.

Conclusion:

By performing duties with a **strong moral foundation, individuals contribute to a just and equitable society.** As Gandhi highlighted, this alignment between duty and morality is essential for fostering responsibility, integrity, and character in individuals, ultimately creating a more compassionate, just, and peaceful world.

Emotional Intelligence-Concepts, and their Utilities and Application in Administration and Governance.

Topic: Emotional intelligence.

Topic: Emotional intelligence.

Q. What does this quote mean to you?

“The road to success runs uphill.” [10M]

Difficulty level: Moderate

Reference: [Deccan Herald](#)

Why the question: As the Paris Olympics is underway the athletes are often in the news to achieve medals in the Olympics.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining the meaning of success.

Body:

- First, explain why the path to success is challenging.
- Then, explain how to inculcate and tame one's mind to be resilient.

- Use examples to justify your points.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing an ethical philosophy or quote.

Topic: Emotional intelligence.

Q. What does this quote mean to you?

“The road to success runs uphill.” [10M]

Introduction:

Success is often defined as the accomplishment of goals, the attainment of personal or professional milestones, or the realization of one’s potential. It is a state where one’s efforts and aspirations culminate in achieving desired outcomes.

Body:



The path to success is challenging due to various **obstacles and difficulties** that one must navigate. Success typically requires sustained effort, perseverance, and overcoming setbacks. The uphill nature of the journey symbolizes the struggles and hardships that individuals encounter as they strive toward their goals. **For instance, achieving a high level of success in sports often demands long hours of hard work, dealing with failures, and facing competitive environments.** This uphill battle is characterized by persistent effort despite facing difficulties.

To successfully tackle these challenges, one must develop resilience a mental **fortitude** that enables individuals to endure and overcome adversity. Resilience can be cultivated through practices such as setting realistic goals, maintaining a positive mindset, and learning from failures. **For example, Thomas Edison, who famously faced numerous failed experiments before inventing the lightbulb, exemplifies resilience.** His ability to view failures as learning opportunities rather than obstacles played a crucial role in his eventual success.

Additionally, creating a support system, such **as mentors or peers**, can provide guidance and encouragement during tough times. Steve Jobs, who faced multiple setbacks in his career, including being ousted from Apple, demonstrated resilience by continuing to innovate and eventually leading Apple to unprecedented success. His story underscores the importance **of mental resilience** and the ability to push forward despite facing significant challenges.

Conclusion:

Embracing the challenges and learning from the journey ultimately contributes to a more fulfilling and rewarding experience. **Success is not merely about reaching the destination but also about the strength and character developed through the pursuit.**

Contributions of Moral Thinkers and Philosophers from India and World.

Topic: Ethical philosophy.

Q. “Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice. Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.” In this context, explain how you prioritize your inner voice over external voices. [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [Times of India](#)

Why the question: The question explores the practical implementation of ethical values and philosophy in real life, which can aid in navigating ethical dilemmas.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining the inner voice and external voice.

Body:

- First, write how external noise influences inner noise.
- Then explain the role of the inner voice.
- Then write how you prioritize inner voice over external voices.

Conclusion: Write a quote on conscience and conclude the answer.

Topic: Ethical philosophy.

Q. “Don’t let the noise of others’ opinions drown out your own inner voice. Have the courage to follow your heart and intuition.” In this context, explain how you prioritize your inner voice over external voices. [10M]

Introduction:

The inner voice represents one's conscience and personal values, guiding ethical decisions, while the external voice includes societal opinions, pressures, and influences. Balancing these voices is crucial in maintaining moral integrity.

Body:

Influence of external noise:

1. **Social pressure:** External voices often come from societal norms, and peer influences, which can push individuals toward decisions that align with popular opinion rather than personal values.

E.g. Patriarchy in society.

2. **Power dynamics:** Pressure from authority, and influential people, can cause individuals to compromise their ethical standards to avoid conflict or gain favor.

E.g. Collusive corruption.

3. **Fear of judgment:** Concern about being judged or ostracized by others can lead to decisions that prioritize external approval over one’s own moral beliefs.

E.g. Kerala film industry sexual assault issue.

4. **Cultural norms:** In some cases, deeply ingrained cultural practices may conflict with personal ethical values, making it difficult to prioritize the inner voice.

Role of the inner voice:

1. **Moral compass:** The inner voice acts as a guiding force, rooted in conscience and ethical principles, steering decisions towards integrity and fairness.

E.g. Conscience guides individuals toward moral behavior.

2. **Self-awareness:** It fosters self-awareness by encouraging reflection on personal values, helping to differentiate between right and wrong, even in complex situations.

E.g. Mindfulness in every situation.

3. **Emotional intelligence:** The inner voice aids in managing emotions, ensuring responses are thoughtful and aligned with ethical considerations.

E.g. Empathy and compassion in the situation.

4. **Consistency in values:** It ensures consistency in actions, maintaining alignment between personal beliefs and behavior, regardless of external influences.

I prioritize the inner voice through:

1. **Self-reflection:** Regular self-reflection helps to strengthen the inner voice, allowing individuals to stay connected to their core values amidst external noise.

E.g. Yoga and meditation.

2. **Courage to stand alone:** It requires courage to stand firm in one's beliefs, especially when they conflict with the dominant external voices, but doing so reinforces personal integrity.

E.g. Maintain moral integrity.

3. **Setting boundaries:** Establishing clear boundaries helps protect personal values from being overridden by external pressures or demands.

E.g. Gandhi never compromised on personal values like Ahimsa.

4. **Seeking like-minded support:** Surrounding oneself with individuals who share similar values can provide the strength to prioritize the inner voice.

Conclusion:

As Mahatma Gandhi said, "**The only tyrant I accept in this world is the still small voice within.**" Prioritizing the inner voice over external noise is essential for ethical decision-making, ensuring that actions align with one's conscience and moral integrity.

Q. What does this Quote mean to you?

"Ignorance, the root and stem of every evil." — Plato [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Why the question: The question is part of Quote Wednesday and covers the contribution of philosophers.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining Ignorance.

Body:

- First, explain how ignorance is root of every evil.
- Then, explain how to overcome it

Conclusion: Summarize by writing philosophy on it.

Topic: Philosophy and moral thinkers.

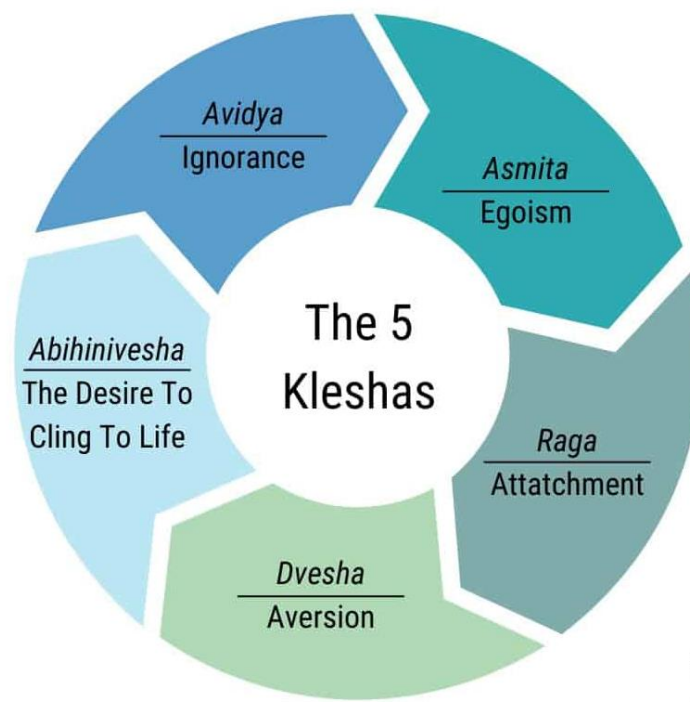
Q. What does this Quote mean to you

"Ignorance, the root and stem of every evil." — Plato [10M]

Introduction:

Ignorance can be defined as a **lack of knowledge, understanding, or awareness** about something. It is not merely the absence of information but also an unwillingness to seek or accept truth. Plato emphasizes the profound impact ignorance has on individuals and society.

Body:



Ignorance as the root of every evil:

1. **Breeds prejudice and intolerance:** Ignorance leads to a lack of understanding of others' perspectives, fostering prejudice, discrimination, and intolerance.

E.g. Manipur ethnic violence

2. **Causes misinformed decisions:** Decisions made without accurate information often result in harm, as individuals act on misconceptions or false beliefs.

E.g. UP mob lynching case

3. **Perpetuates injustice:** Ignorance allows systemic injustices to thrive, as people may be unaware of the impact of their actions or the existence of inequities.

E.g. Human right violations on minorities.

4. **Leads to fear and conflict:** A lack of knowledge about others' cultures, beliefs, or intentions often results in fear, which can escalate into conflict or violence.

E.g. Hamas vs Israel conflict.

Overcoming ignorance:

1. **Promote education:** Access to quality education helps individuals gain knowledge, think critically, and challenge misconceptions.

E.g. Scientific curiosity curriculum in school.

2. **Encourage open-mindedness:** Cultivating a mindset open to new ideas and perspectives reduces the likelihood of holding onto ignorance-driven beliefs.

E.g. Social media post used for sharing idea.

3. **Foster dialogue:** Engaging in discussions with diverse groups encourages understanding and dispels ignorance about different cultures and viewpoints.

E.g. Socratic discussion and debate.

4. **Practice self-awareness:** Recognizing and addressing one's own biases and limitations in knowledge is crucial in overcoming ignorance and fostering personal growth.

Conclusion:

By addressing ignorance, we can prevent the evils that arise from it, paving the way for a **more enlightened and compassionate world**. Ignorance is not just a lack of information; it is the barrier to wisdom, and overcoming it is essential for the betterment of humanity.

Topic: Human Values - Lessons from the Lives and Teachings of Great Leaders

Q. "One who possesses wisdom has everything, even without material wealth. Conversely, no matter how rich, a person who lacks wisdom truly has nothing."
Comment [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Why the question: Thiruvalluvar's quote explores the debate between wisdom and materialistic life.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining wisdom

Body:

- First, explain how man with wisdom has everything.
- Then, explain how the emphasis on materialistic life and lacking wisdom impacts life.
- Lastly, explain how to inculcate wisdom in an individual.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing a quote or way ahead.

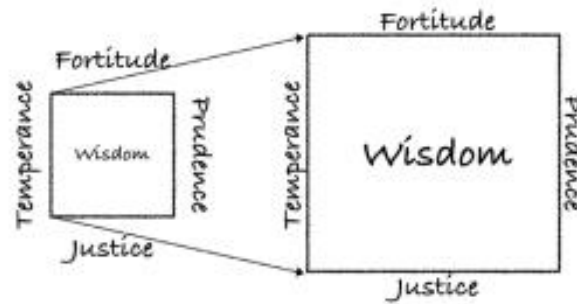
Topic: Human Values - Lessons from the Lives and Teachings of Great Leaders

Q. "One who possesses wisdom has everything, even without material wealth. Conversely, no matter how rich, a person who lacks wisdom truly has nothing."
Comment [10M]

Introduction:

Wisdom is the ability to make **sound decisions based on knowledge, experience,** and ethical principles. It transcends mere intelligence or knowledge, guiding an individual towards a life of meaning, virtue, and moral integrity.

Body:



The value of wisdom:

1. **Moral compass:** Wisdom provides a strong ethical foundation, guiding individuals to act with integrity and moral clarity, leading to a fulfilling life.

E.g. Dictate individual behaviour.

2. **Resilience:** A wise person is equipped to navigate challenges with composure, turning adversities into opportunities for growth.

E.g. Resolving moral dilemma.

3. **True fulfillment:** Wisdom fosters a sense of inner peace and contentment, which material wealth alone cannot provide.

E.g. Conscience based actions.

4. **Purposeful life:** It enables one to discern what truly matters, leading to a life that is aligned with higher values and purpose.

Impact of materialism and lack of wisdom:

1. **Moral decay:** A life focused solely on material wealth without wisdom often leads to ethical compromises and moral degradation.

E.g. Unethical means to enrich self.

2. **Emptiness:** The pursuit of material success can result in a hollow existence, lacking genuine satisfaction and inner peace.

E.g. Consumerism attitude.

3. **Unstable happiness:** Reliance on external wealth creates fleeting happiness, vulnerable to loss and change, unlike the enduring fulfilment wisdom offers.

E.g. Stress due to competition.

4. **Short-sighted decisions:** Without wisdom, decisions may be driven by immediate gratification or superficial gains, neglecting long-term consequences.

Cultivating wisdom:

1. **Self-reflection:** Regular introspection helps individuals understand their values and align their actions with ethical principles.

E.g. Journal writing.

2. **Continuous learning:** Embracing lifelong learning and seeking knowledge from diverse sources nurtures wisdom.

E.g. Kaizen Japanese principle of continuous learning.

3. **Mindfulness and discernment:** Practicing mindfulness allows for thoughtful decision-making, leading to wiser choices.

E.g. Meditation and Vipasana.

4. **Ethical guidance:** Engaging with ethical philosophies and mentors can help develop a deeper understanding of right and wrong

Conclusion:

In essence, wisdom is the cornerstone of a meaningful life, far surpassing material wealth in its significance. **As Socrates once said, "The only true wisdom is in knowing you know nothing,"** emphasizing the lifelong journey of acquiring wisdom. This pursuit enriches life in ways that material wealth never can.

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; Ethical Issues in International Relations and Funding; Corporate Governance.

Topic:

Q. How can gender ethics address and mitigate the frequent human rights violations associated with violence against women? [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [Economic Times](#)

Why the question: A woman resident doctor was allegedly assaulted by a drunk patient and his relatives at Mumbai's Sion hospital.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by giving a recent context or defining gender ethics.

Body:

- First, explain violation of women rights in recent time.
- Then, explain how gender ethics can resolve the issues.

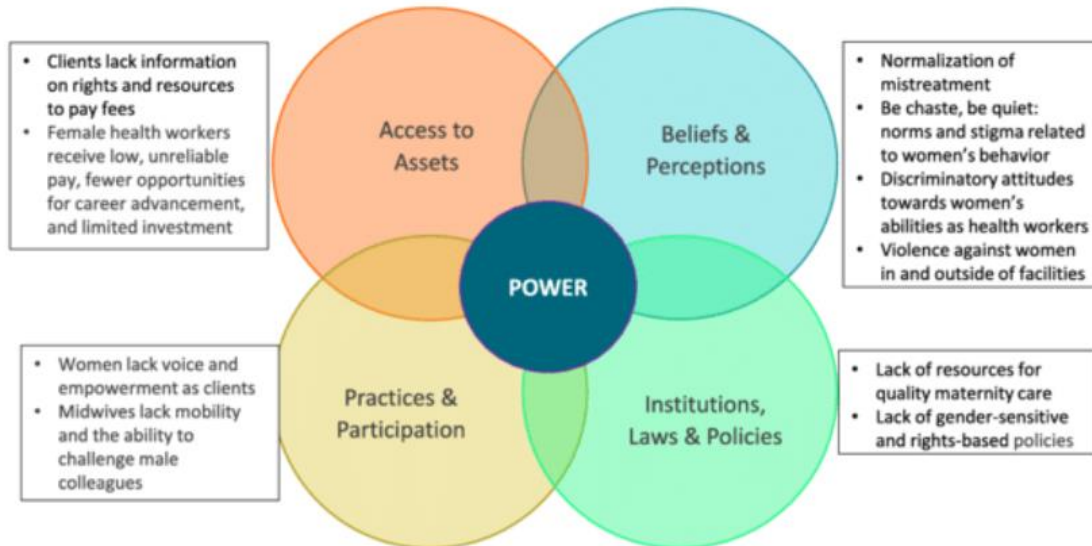
Conclusion: Summarize by writing an ethical philosophy or quote.

Q. How can gender ethics address and mitigate the frequent human rights violations associated with violence against women? [10M]

Introduction:

Recent issue like Abhaya case, Hatra's gang rape ethics and NCRB data disclosed a staggering 4,45,256 cases of crime against women in 2022, translating to approximately 51 FIRs every hour, these manifest that Indian society lack gender ethics.

Body:



Frequent violations of women's rights:

1. **Prevalence of sexual violence:** Approximately **35% of women worldwide experience physical or sexual** violence from intimate partners or non-partners, severely affecting their health and well-being.
2. **High rate of intimate partner violence:** Intimate partner violence is a significant issue, with **38% of female murder victims** being killed by a male partner, reflecting extreme violence within personal relationships.
3. **Impact of harmful cultural practices:** Practices such as **female genital mutilation, acid attacks, and honor-based violence** continue to inflict severe physical and psychological harm on women, reflecting deep-seated gender inequalities.
4. **Underreporting and legal failures:** Despite the prevalence of violence, many cases remain unreported due to **stigma and fear**, and legal systems often fail to provide adequate protection or justice, perpetuating the cycle of abuse.

Gender ethics can resolve the issues:

1. **Advocating for gender equality:** Gender ethics promotes equality and challenges discriminatory norms that perpetuate violence.

E.g. Imbedding constitutional value in schools

2. **Empowering women:** Gender ethics supports initiatives that enhance women's autonomy, such as access to education, economic opportunities, and legal rights.

E.g. Drone and Lakpathi didi scheme empower women.

3. **Promoting supportive legal and social systems:** Implementing gender-ethical frameworks involves creating and enforcing laws that protect women.

E.g. Nari Shakti vandana act providing 33% reservation.

4. **Engaging men and boys**: By fostering positive attitudes and challenging harmful stereotypes, it helps prevent violence and supports gender equality.

E.g. #HeForShe campaign.

Conclusion:

Gender-sensitive education and social reform are essential for restoring and upholding women's dignity in society, especially in a complex nation like India where this is urgently needed.

Topic: Corporate governance.

Q. Is employee poaching a savvy business tactic, or does it overstep ethical boundaries? Justify your answer. [10M]

Difficulty level: Hard

Reference: [Economic Times](#)

Why the question: The competitive market landscape has driven MNCs to engage in cross-poaching of employees, employing both ethical and unethical approaches.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by giving a recent context.

Body:

- First, explain how poaching is savvy business tactics and ethical.
- Then, explain how it cross ethical boundaries.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing way ahead to it.

Topic: Corporate governance.

Q. Is employee poaching a savvy business tactic, or does it overstep ethical boundaries? Justify your answer. [10M]

Introduction:

In today's highly competitive corporate world, the practice of employee poaching has gained prominence. For example, the tech industry in Southeast Asia has seen a surge in this trend, where companies often lure top talent from their rivals with better offers.

Body:



Poaching as a savvy business tactic and ethical:

1. **Attracting top talent:** Poaching allows companies to acquire skilled professionals quickly, which can give them a competitive edge in the market.

E.g. Samsung relocateD packaging unit workplace to lure talent.

2. **Market-driven opportunity:** In a free market, professionals should have the right to seek better opportunities, and companies should have the right to attract the best talent.

E.g. Free market principle.

3. **Encouraging innovation:** Bringing in fresh talent from competitors can foster innovation and bring new perspectives to the organization.

E.g. Google work space famous for its innovation.

4. **Employee empowerment:** Poaching can be seen as a form of employee empowerment, allowing individuals to advance their careers.

E.g. Respectable hike based on work.

5. **Talent redistribution:** In industries where talent is scarce, poaching helps in redistributing skilled professionals, ensuring that expertise is not monopolized.

Poaching crosses ethical boundaries because:

1. **Disruption of operations:** Poaching can cause significant disruption to the operations of the company losing talent, leading to project delays and loss of productivity.

E.g. Lack of immediate skilled labour.

2. **Undermining loyalty:** This practice can undermine employee loyalty, as it creates a culture of job-hopping rather than long-term commitment.

E.g. Violation of code of conduct in firm.

3. **Unethical recruitment practices:** Poaching involves unethical tactics like spreading false information about the current employer or creating a toxic work environment.

E.g. Infosys accuse Cognizant of unethical poaching.

4. **Damaging company reputation:** Companies that are known for aggressive poaching might damage their reputation, making it harder to build long-term partnerships.

E.g. Uber secret agents issue.

5. **Legal and contractual violations:** In some cases, poaching can lead to breaches of non-compete clauses or other contractual agreements, leading to legal complications.

Conclusion:

Employee poaching is a **double-edged sword**. The way ahead lies in striking a balance companies should focus on creating attractive work environments and career paths to retain talent while maintaining ethical recruitment practices.

Topic: Corruption and value ethics.

Q. “Even one egregious violation of the rule can cast shade on the entire process.” Do you agree with the statement? Justify your stand. [10M]

Difficulty level: Hard

Reference: [The Hindu](#)

Why the question: In what has emerged as the outlandish tale of Puja Khedkar, the multiple methods by which she stepped outside the law would be fantastic, if they had not been proven true.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by giving a recent example of Pooja Kedkar or NTA scam.

Body:

- First, agree with the statement and explain how violation of one significant rule amounts to unethical practice.
- Then, disagree with the statement on how to subjectively determine the violation of a rule.
- End with a balanced answer.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing an ethical philosophy or quote.

Topic: Corruption and value ethics.

Q. “Even one egregious violation of the rule can cast shade on the entire process.” Do you agree with the statement? Justify your stand. [10M]

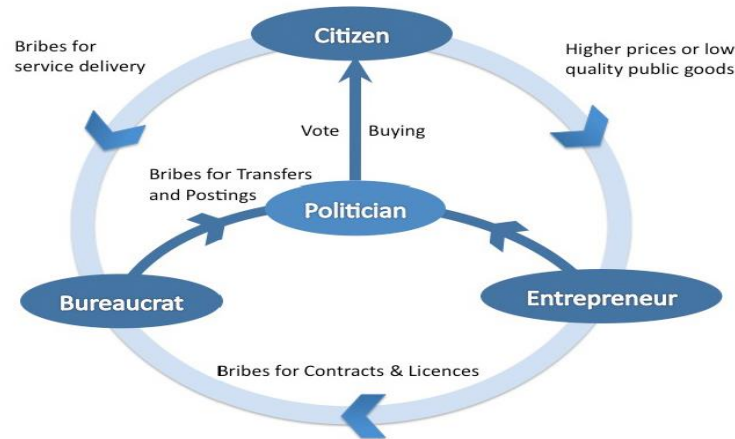
Introduction:

In recent times, instances like the **NTA scam in the NEET and the Pooja Kedkar case**, where procedural violations led to widespread outcry, have highlighted the importance

of strict adherence to rules and regulations. These cases have shown how even a single violation can erode trust in the entire system.

Body:

THE WHEEL OF CORRUPTION



Violation of one rule cast a shadow on the entire process because:

1. **Undermines integrity:** A single egregious violation can severely undermine the integrity of the entire process.

E.g. the NTA scam manipulated the examination process, and the violation cast doubt on the fairness and reliability of the NEET

2. **Public trust erosion:** Public institutions rely on trust, and a significant breach, like Pooja Kedkar's case, where procedural lapses led to a miscarriage of justice, can lead to widespread skepticism.
3. **Setting a dangerous precedent:** Such violations, if not addressed promptly, can set a precedent that rules are flexible or can be bypassed. This can lead to further ethical breaches, making the entire system vulnerable to corruption and malpractice.

E.g. Chhattisgarh PCS scam.

4. **Impact on stakeholders:** When a single rule is violated, the consequences often ripple out to affect a wide range of stakeholders. In the case of educational exams or legal procedures, students, citizens, and society at large are impacted.

E.g. Delay in the admission of medical students in the NEET exam.

However, there are certain limitations such as:

1. **Subjectivity in rule violation:** Not all violations are of the same magnitude. Minor infractions might not have a significant impact on the overall process.

E.g. a clerical error though technically a violation, may not fundamentally undermine the integrity of the entire system.

2. **Context matters:** A minor lapse in a non-critical area should not overshadow the overall fairness or efficiency of the process. Thus, it is essential to assess the severity and context of the violation before casting judgment on the entire process.

E.g. Delay in recruitment due to circular notification errors.

3. **Corrective mechanisms:** Systems often have built-in corrective mechanisms to address and rectify violations. If a violation is identified and corrected transparently, it can restore confidence.

Middle path:

1. **Proportional response:** While it is true that significant violations can cast a shadow over an entire process, it is important to respond proportionally. Not all violations should be seen as equally damaging.
2. **Ethical vigilance:** Continuous vigilance, ethical training, and adherence to best practices are crucial in ensuring that even minor violations do not occur.

Conclusion:

In the words of **Mahatma Gandhi, "The means are as important as the ends."** Ethical processes demand strict adherence to rules, as even a single violation can have far-reaching consequences. However, it is equally important to maintain a balanced perspective, ensuring that responses to violations are fair, context-driven, and aimed at upholding the overall integrity of the system.

Topic: Corruption and value ethics.

Q. There is a common feeling that there has been a gradual erosion of cultural values, resulting in a widespread 'culture of corruption', with personal interests taking precedence over the public good in all spheres of life. Comment [10M]

Difficulty level: Hard

Reference: [The Indian Express](#)

Why the question: Eight years after conducting its preliminary inquiry, the CBI has booked the country's leading aluminum producer, Hindalco of the Aditya Birla Group, for alleged corruption in getting environmental clearances for coal mining between.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining corruption or the meaning of the culture of corruption.

Body:

- First, explain why the culture of corruption is increasing lately.
- Then, explain which value decline has been leading to such a condition.
- Mention how to eradicate corruption in India.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing an ethical philosophy or quote.

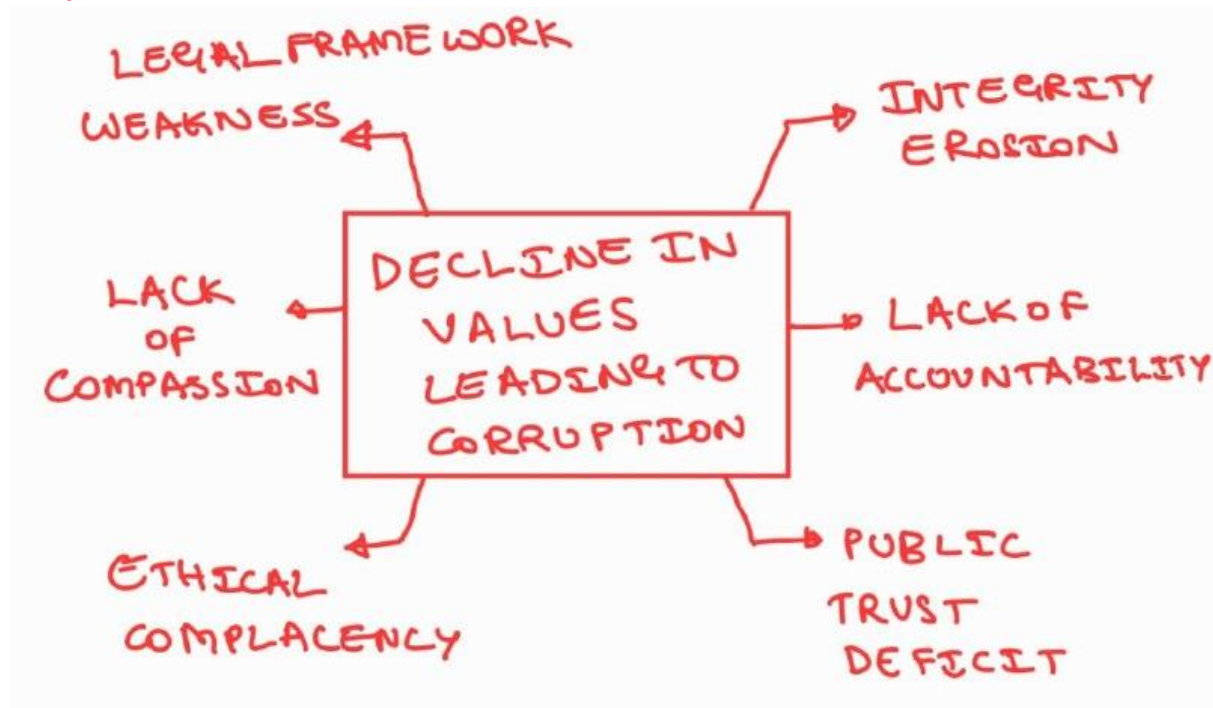
Topic: Corruption and value ethics.

Q. There is a common feeling that there has been a gradual erosion of cultural values, resulting in a widespread 'culture of corruption', with personal interests taking precedence over the public good in all spheres of life. Comment [10M]

Introduction:

Corruption is the abuse of power for **personal gain, undermining the integrity** of institutions and eroding public trust. A "culture of corruption" refers to a societal norm where corrupt practices are widespread and often normalized, reflecting a systemic failure to uphold ethical values.

Body:



The reasons behind the increasing culture of corruption are:

1. **Weak governance structures:** Inadequate enforcement of laws and lack of stringent accountability mechanisms allow corrupt practices to flourish with minimal consequences.

E.g. Art 311 which provides job security for officials.

2. **Economic disparities:** Social and economic inequalities create opportunities for individuals with power or wealth to exploit their positions for personal gain.

E.g. official discretions.

3. **Political interference:** Political patronage and misuse of office for personal or party benefits lead to systemic corruption, undermining public trust in institutions.

E.g. Mumbai Home minister monthly collection accusation by Parmbir Singh IPS.

4. **Bureaucratic inefficiency:** Complex and opaque administrative processes provide fertile ground for corrupt practices, as individuals may resort to bribery to expedite or bypass procedures.

E.g. Delhi bureaucrats misusing ground for a dog walk.

5. **Cultural normalization:** A prevailing attitude that "everyone does it" contributes to a normalized acceptance of corruption, reducing the perceived seriousness of unethical behavior.

E.g. Collusive corruption like in the Karnataka Valmiki Corporation case

Measures to eradicate corruption in India are:

1. **Strengthen institutions:** Enhance the effectiveness and independence of oversight bodies like the CVC and CBI to ensure thorough and unbiased investigations.

E.g. ED and CBI actively exposing Delhi liquor scam.

2. **Promote transparency:** Implement e-governance and digital platforms to reduce human intervention and opportunities for corruption. Increase transparency in decision-making processes and financial disclosures.

E.g. e-Pragathi portal.

3. **Reform political and administrative systems:** Introduce stricter anti-corruption laws, ensure fair and merit-based recruitment and promotions, and limit political interference in administrative matters.

E.g. CAG Transfer and posting guidelines on officials.

4. **Foster ethical values:** invest in ethics training and education for public officials, and promote a culture of accountability and transparency through public awareness campaigns.

E.g. Mission Karmayogi to train officers.

5. **Protect whistle-blowers:** Strengthen legal protections for whistle-blowers to encourage reporting of corrupt activities without fear of retaliation or adverse consequences.

E.g. Prevent victimizing of whistle-blowers.

Conclusion:

Combating the culture of corruption necessitates a dedicated effort to reinstate ethical values and integrity. As Mahatma Gandhi wisely noted, "**The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.**" Emphasizing ethical behavior and public service can help rebuild trust and foster a more transparent, accountable society.

Topic: Ethical Concerns and Dilemmas in Government

Q. Ignorance leads to a lack of awareness and knowledge, which can result in poor decision-making and a lack of progress. In this context, what ethical challenges surround ignorance in governance? How can one overcome ignorance in life? [10M]

Difficulty level: Hard

Reference: [Deccan Herald](#)

Why the question:

A blame game erupted over the Wayanad disaster on Wednesday with Union Home Minister Amit Shah blaming the Kerala government for “not heeding” to prior warning sent as early as July 23 leading to vast devastation, a charge denied by Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by writing a definition of Ignorance

Body:

- First, address the ethical challenges surrounding ignorance in governance.
- Then, briefly explain how to overcome ignorance in life.
- Use examples to justify your points.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing the significance of overcoming ignorance in life.

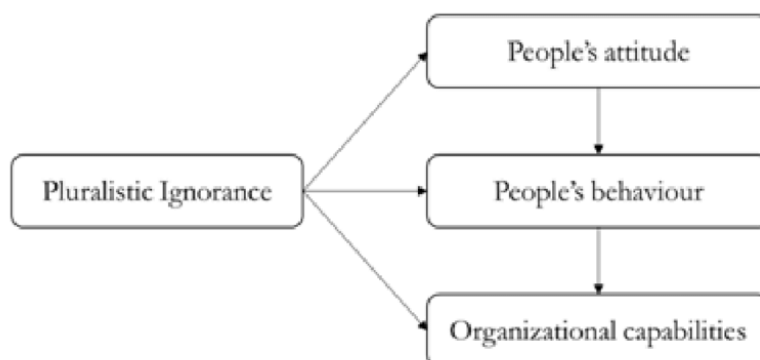
Topic: Ethical Concerns and Dilemmas in Government

Q. Ignorance leads to a lack of awareness and knowledge, which can result in poor decision-making and a lack of progress. In this context, what ethical challenges surround ignorance in governance? How can one overcome ignorance in life? [10M]

Introduction:

“The only good is knowledge and the only evil is ignorance.” It is a state of being uninformed or unaware, which can stem from a variety of sources including limited education, insufficient access to information, or deliberate avoidance of knowledge.

Body:



Ethical challenges surrounding ignorance in governance:

1. **Policy ineffectiveness:** Ignorance in governance can lead to poorly informed policies that do not address the real needs of the populace.

E.g. Centre state blame game in Wayanad landslide.

2. **Injustice and inequality:** Ignorance about marginalized communities' challenges can lead to their continued neglect and oppression, resulting in systemic injustice.

E.g. Manipur riots among Meiteis and Kukis

3. **Corruption and mismanagement:** Ignorance can create opportunities for corruption, as officials may lack the knowledge to properly oversee projects and funds.

E.g. Karnataka Valmiki corporation scam.

4. **Loss of public trust:** People expect their leaders to be knowledgeable and competent. Ignorance in governance can lead to disillusionment and a lack of faith in public institutions.

E.g. Delhi municipal and the death of 3 UPSC aspirants due to negligence of officials.

5. **Hindrance to progress:** Ignorance can stifle innovation and progress. Without a clear understanding of current issues and future possibilities, governance can become stagnant.

E.g. Delayed adoption of digital technology in governance.

Overcoming ignorance in life

1. **Pursue continuous education:** Engaging in continuous education, whether through formal schooling, online courses, reading, or attending workshops, helps in staying informed and knowledgeable.
2. **Seek diverse perspectives:** Engaging with people from different backgrounds and perspectives can provide a broader understanding of the world.
3. **Stay informed:** Regularly consuming news and information from reliable sources is essential. Staying updated with current events, scientific discoveries, and cultural developments keeps ignorance at bay.
4. **Reflect and question:** Questioning existing beliefs, seeking evidence, and reflecting on one's knowledge and experiences can lead to a deeper understanding.
5. **Engage in community and civic activities:** Volunteering, participating in local governance, and engaging in public discourse can bridge gaps in knowledge and awareness.

Conclusion:

The concept of the "**veil of ignorance,**" as introduced by John Rawls, underscores the importance of making decisions impartially, free from personal biases. By embracing this principle, individuals and societies can work towards greater fairness, equity, and informed decision-making, ultimately reducing the detrimental effects of ignorance.

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.

Topic: Values in public office

1Q. "Power tends to corrupt, and absolute power corrupts absolutely. Great men are almost always bad men" Do you agree with this view? [10M]

Introduction:

Corruption is often seen as a consequence of power, where individuals in positions of authority may exploit their influence for personal gain. Statement captures the idea that the **concentration of power often leads to moral decay**. This notion has profound implications for both governance and leadership.

Body:

Power, by its very nature, can create an environment where **individuals feel invincible or above the law**. This sense of invulnerability can lead to unethical behavior, as those in power may start prioritizing personal gain over public service. Historical examples abound where leaders, once elevated to powerful positions, have become increasingly authoritarian and corrupt.

E.g. Dictators like Joseph Stalin and Adolf Hitler, who wielded absolute power, resorted to extreme measures and heinous crimes.

However, the assertion that "great men are almost always bad men" may be too absolute. There are numerous examples of leaders who have wielded significant power yet remained committed to ethical governance and public service.

E.g. Mahatma Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, and Abraham Lincoln are instances of leaders who, despite their influence, stayed true to their values and worked for the greater good.

These **individuals demonstrate that power does not necessarily corrupt**, especially when guided by **strong moral principles** and a commitment to serving others. In democracies, the existence of service-oriented politicians who prioritize public welfare over personal gain challenges the notion that power inevitably corrupts.

While it is true that power has the potential to corrupt, it is not an absolute certainty. The impact of power on an individual **depends largely on their personal values, the presence of checks and balances**, and the accountability mechanisms in place. Leaders who are grounded in ethical principles and who face regular scrutiny are less likely to fall prey to

the corrupting influence of power. Thus, while power can corrupt, it is not an inevitable outcome, and great men do not always turn out to be bad men.

Conclusion:

As Mahatma Gandhi once said, "**The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others.**" This philosophy underscores the potential for power to be wielded responsibly and ethically, even in the hands of those with significant authority.

Topic: Foundational values.

Q. Why is impartiality important in public service, and what challenges do public servants face in maintaining it? [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [Deccan Herald](#)

Why the question: The petition, filed through advocate Satya Ranjan Swain, said the PWD minister had granted sanction for the installation of cameras in different assembly constituencies out of which only Laxmi Nagar was 'deliberately' left out.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining impartiality.

Body:

- First, explain why impartiality in public service.
- Then, explain the challenges faced by public servants in maintain impartiality.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing a quote or way ahead.

Topic: Foundational values.

Q. Why is impartiality important in public service, and what challenges do public servants face in maintaining it? [10M]

Introduction:

Impartiality refers to the principle of **treating all people and situations fairly** and **without bias**. In public service, impartiality is essential to ensure trust, fairness, and equal treatment in decision-making.

Body:

Importance of impartiality in public service:

1. **Trust in governance:** Impartiality fosters public trust by ensuring that decisions are made based on merit, without favouritism or discrimination.

E.g. RBI which balance both consumer and investor need.

2. **Fair distribution of resources:** It ensures that public resources and services are allocated equitably, benefiting all sections of society.

E.g. PDS shop and food distribution.

3. **Rule of law:** Impartiality upholds the rule of law, where laws and regulations are applied consistently to everyone, regardless of status or influence.

E.g. A.V. Dicey rule of law principles.

4. **Ethical standards:** It aligns with the ethical standards of public service, promoting integrity and accountability in administration.

5. **Conflict resolution:** Impartiality is crucial in resolving conflicts and disputes fairly, thereby maintaining social harmony and justice.

E.g. Judicial services in court rooms.

Challenges in maintaining impartiality:

1. **Political pressure:** Public servants often face political pressure to favor certain groups or individuals, which can compromise their impartiality.

E.g. Biased pro government decisions.

2. **Social biases:** Personal biases or societal influences can unconsciously affect decision-making, leading to partiality.

E.g. Neglect of vulnerable sections in decision making.

3. **Resource constraints:** Limited resources can lead to difficult decisions on allocation, where impartiality may be challenged by competing interests.

E.g. Limited budgetary resources.

4. **Corruption and influence:** Corruption and undue influence from powerful entities can undermine a public servant's ability to remain impartial.

E.g. Pooja Singhal IAS corruption case.

5. **Cultural and community expectations:** Public servants may face expectations from their own community which can conflict with the principle of impartiality.

Conclusion:

Impartiality is the cornerstone of ethical governance, ensuring fairness and justice in public administration. Upholding it requires strong ethical principles and a commitment to resist pressures that could lead to bias.

Topic: Governance.

Q. "Political climate in the State often affects governance". Elucidate [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Reference: [The Hindu](#)

Why the question: Farmers have expressed their ire over the “indifference” of the political dispensation in the State towards agricultural distress and other pressing issues amidst the increase despite the ruling and opposition parties over the last few weeks.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin by defining governance or giving context.

Body:

- First, explain how political climate often affects governance.
- Then, explain how to resolve such issues.
- Give an example and justify your answer.

Conclusion: Summarize by writing a quote or way ahead.

Topic: Governance.

Q. “Political climate in the State often affects governance”. Elucidate [10M]

Introduction:

Governance refers to the **processes, systems, and actions** through which public institutions exercise authority and manage public resources to meet the needs of society. The political climate of a state **includes the attitudes, policies, and actions of political leaders** and parties, which can significantly impact governance.

Body:

Political climate affects state governance through:

1. **Influence on policy implementation:** A volatile political climate can lead to frequent changes in policies, affecting the continuity and effectiveness of governance.

E.g. Farmer act was taken back due to protest.

2. **Impact on administrative efficiency:** Political interference can disrupt the functioning of public institutions, leading to delays, corruption, and inefficiency.

E.g. Manipur violence and involvement of police.

3. **Public trust and morale:** A polarized political environment can erode public trust in governance and demoralize public servants, impacting service delivery.

E.g. Anti- Muslim hate speech during election.

4. **Governance priorities:** Political agendas often shape governance priorities, which may not always align with the broader needs of society, leading to misallocation.

E.g. Delhi biased development issue.

To counter political climate and enforcement of governance can be done through:

1. **Strengthening institutions:** Ensuring the autonomy and resilience of public institutions to withstand political pressures can help maintain governance quality.

E.g. Allowing EC to disqualify candidates.

2. **Promoting bipartisanship:** Encouraging collaboration and consensus-building among political parties can reduce the negative impact of a hostile political climate.

E.g. All party meeting as in Bangladesh issue case.

3. **Public accountability:** Implementing mechanisms that hold political leaders accountable for their actions can help align governance with public interests.

E.g. UK model of legal responsibility on ministers.

4. **Transparent governance:** Enhancing transparency in decision-making processes can reduce the influence of political biases on governance.

E.g. e-Governance model.

5. **Civic engagement:** Encouraging active participation from citizens can help maintain a check on political interference in governance.

Conclusion:

"Good governance depends on the ability of political leaders to rise above partisan interests and work for the common good." Strengthening democratic institutions and promoting civic engagement are key to ensuring that governance is not unduly influenced by political climates.

Topic: Governance.

Q. What do you understand by the following?

- a) Boomerang Effect
- b) Doctrine of Double Effect
- c) Divine Command Theory [10M]

Difficulty level: Medium

Why the question: The static part covers the philosophy and various theories of ethics.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Begin with a general intro to ethics and its philosophies.

Body:

- Maintain the following structure in answering each term:
 - Define what theory means.
 - Then explain the features of the theory.
 - Write significance briefly.

Conclusion: Quote with a quote on ethics or a general conclusion linking to the above theories.

Topic: Governance.

Q. What do you understand by the following?

- a) Boomerang Effect
- b) Doctrine of Double Effect
- c) Divine Command Theory [10M]

Introduction:

Ethics and its related philosophies offer a framework to assess **what is considered morally right or wrong**. Various theories guide human behavior by providing principles rooted in religious, psychological, and philosophical reasoning.

Body:

a) **Boomerang Effect:**

- **Definition:** The Boomerang Effect in social psychology refers to the unintended consequence where attempts to change someone's attitude or behavior result in them adopting an opposing stance.
- **Features:**
 - It often occurs when individuals feel their freedom to choose is being restricted, leading them to resist and assert their autonomy.
 - Linked to the theory of psychological reactance, which posits that when people feel their freedom is threatened, they react in a way that restores that freedom.
- **Significance:** Understanding this effect is crucial in fields like social marketing and public policy, where persuasive communication is key. It highlights the need for subtle and respectful approaches to behavior change.

b) **Doctrine of Double Effect:**

- **Definition:** The Doctrine of Double Effect is a moral principle stating that an action causing serious harm as a side effect of achieving a good end can be permissible if the harm was not intended.
- **Features:**
 - The action itself must be morally good or neutral.
 - The good effect must not arise from the bad effect, and both should result from the action itself.
 - The good effect must outweigh the bad effect.
- **Significance:** This principle is often used in ethical dilemmas, particularly in medicine and warfare, to justify actions that have both positive and negative outcomes. It helps navigate complex situations where harm is unavoidable.

c) **Divine Command Theory:**

- **Definition:** Divine Command Theory is a meta-ethical theory that asserts an action's morality is determined by God's commands.
- **Features:**
 - It posits that what is moral is defined by God's will, making adherence to divine commands central to moral behavior.

- It applies across various monotheistic and polytheistic religions, providing a religious basis for morality.
- **Significance:** This theory is significant in religious contexts, guiding followers to live moral lives according to divine will. It also raises questions about the nature of morality and the relationship between religion and ethics.

Conclusion:

Ethical theories like the Boomerang Effect, Doctrine of Double Effect, and Divine Command Theory **offer diverse perspectives on moral decision-making**. Each theory, rooted in psychology, philosophy, or religion, helps us navigate the complexities of ethical behavior.

Case Studies on above issues.

Q. You are the District Collector of a historic town where a large statue of a revered local hero was recently installed as part of a major cultural heritage project. The statue, which was intended to symbolize the town's pride and historical significance, collapsed just a few days after its inauguration, causing widespread public outrage and disappointment. The incident has triggered a political controversy, with opposition leaders accusing your administration of negligence and incompetence. The collapse of the statue has not only hurt the sentiments of the local community but has also brought into question the integrity of the public officials involved in the project. Amid the uproar, you have received instructions from higher authorities to investigate the incident thoroughly. However, there is also mounting pressure from political figures to quickly issue a public apology to pacify the community and contain the situation.

In the given circumstance answer the following:

- a) **Identify the key stakeholders in the case.**
- b) **What are the ethical issues involved in the case?**
- c) **What leadership qualities are essential in handling this situation, and how would you demonstrate them to restore public trust? [20M]**

Introduction:

As the District Collector of a historic town, you are faced with a challenging situation where a newly installed statue of a local hero has collapsed, **leading to public outrage, political controversy, and questions about the administration's integrity.** Addressing these concerns requires a careful balance of transparency, accountability, and effective leadership.

Body:

a) Key stakeholders in the case are:

1. **Local community:** The residents whose sentiments are hurt by the collapse of the statue.

2. **Political leaders:** Both ruling and opposition parties, are concerned with the political implications.
3. **Public officials:** Involved in the planning, construction, and oversight of the project.
4. **Higher authorities:** Those who have instructed you to investigate the incident.
5. **Media:** Reporting on the incident and influencing public opinion.
6. **Construction contractors:** Responsible for the statue's construction and potential negligence.

b) Ethical issues involved in the case

1. **Accountability:** Ensuring that those responsible for the statue's collapse are held accountable.
2. **Transparency:** Conducting a fair and open investigation to maintain public trust.
3. **Integrity:** Upholding the honesty and ethical standards of public officials.
4. **Responsibility:** Addressing the community's concerns without yielding to political pressure.
5. **Justice:** Ensuring that any wrongdoing is corrected, and appropriate actions are taken.

c) Leadership qualities essential in handling the situation are:

1. **Transparency:** Communicate the steps being taken to investigate the incident, demonstrating openness and honesty.

E.g. Publicly announce the formation of an independent inquiry committee.
--
2. **Accountability:** Take responsibility for the incident and ensure that those at fault are identified and held accountable.

E.g. Disciplinary actions are taken against responsible officials and contractors.

3. **Empathy:** Address the emotional impact on the community by acknowledging their sentiments and expressing genuine concern.

E.g. Meet with community leaders to listen to their grievances.
--
4. **Decisiveness:** Make prompt and firm decisions to address the issue, such as initiating repairs or a reconstruction plan.

E.g. Announce a plan to rebuild the statue with better oversight.
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Conclusion:

Restoring trust requires a transparent investigation and accountability. Demonstrating integrity and empathy will help rebuild credibility. As Lincoln said, **"You cannot escape the responsibility of tomorrow by evading it today."**

Q. You are the District Collector of a historic town where a large statue of a revered local hero was recently installed as part of a major cultural heritage project. The statue, which was intended to symbolize the town's pride and historical significance, collapsed just a few days after its inauguration, causing widespread public outrage and disappointment. The incident has triggered a political controversy, with opposition leaders accusing your administration of negligence and incompetence. The collapse of the statue has not only hurt the sentiments of the local community but has also brought into question the integrity of the public officials involved in the project. Amid the uproar, you have received instructions from higher authorities to investigate the incident thoroughly. However, there is also mounting pressure from political figures to quickly issue a public apology to pacify the community and contain the situation.

In the given circumstance answer the following:

Identify the key stakeholders in the case.

- a) What are the ethical issues involved in the case?
- b) What leadership qualities are essential in handling this situation, and how would you demonstrate them to restore public trust? [20M]

Reference: [The Hindu](#)

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Why the question: Prime Minister Narendra Modi apologized to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and those hurt by the collapse of the 17th-century warrior king's statue at Rajkot Fort in Sindhudurg district of Maharashtra.

Key Demand of the question: To write about stakeholders, and ethical issues, and explain the leadership quality essential to handle situations and restore public faith.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Start with the nuances of the case study.

Body:

- First, identify stakeholders.
- Next explain the ethical issues involved in the case.
- Explain the leadership quality essential to handle situations and restore public faith.

Conclusion: Conclude by summarising.

Q. Recently, the government of your state proposed a budget that projected a revenue deficit of ₹20,000 crore for the current fiscal year. In response to this challenging financial situation, it was recommended that the state should implement stringent measures to curb spending and tighten its budgetary controls. However, a few months later, a new proposal was presented to the government concerning the development of a project known as "Skydeck." The Skydeck project, which involves the construction of a high-profile structure in the city, was estimated to cost between ₹400 to ₹500 crore. Despite the pressing need to address the revenue deficit, the government decided to take the initiative and support the proposal for the Skydeck project. This decision was made with the intention of enhancing the city's image and attracting a significant number of tourists, which the government believed would ultimately benefit the state's economy. Rakshit, a dedicated member of a local NGO, raised concerns about the Skydeck project. He argued that, given the current financial constraints and the projected revenue deficit, the allocation of such a substantial sum for the Skydeck project seemed unwarranted. Rakshit pointed out that there was no shortage of private entities capable of executing the project without imposing any financial burden on the state exchequer.

Identify the key stakeholders and ethical issues involved in this case.

Is it ethical for the government to use public funds for a high-profile project like the Skydeck when there are significant financial shortfalls? What principles should be used to ensure the judicious utilization of public funds? [20M]

Reference: [Deccan Herald](#)

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Why the question: Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister D K Shivakumar's grandiose plan to construct a sky deck in Bengaluru at a cost of Rs 400-500 crore may soon become a reality, with the government crossing all initial hurdles and the case study is part of 'Case Study Fridays'.

Key Demand of the question: To write about stakeholders, ethical issues, and principles that the government must adhere to during the utilization of funds.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction:

Begin by giving context or quotes about the utilization of funds.

Body:

- First, identify stakeholders and list out the ethical issues involved in the case.
- Next, discuss whether the decision is ethical {argue for both yes and no}
- Then, explain the principles that must held during the utilization of funds.

Conclusion: Conclude by summarising.

Q. Recently, the government of your state proposed a budget that projected a revenue deficit of ₹20,000 crore for the current fiscal year. In response to this challenging financial situation, it was recommended that the state should implement stringent measures to curb spending and tighten its budgetary controls. However, a few months later, a new proposal was presented to the government concerning the development of a project known as "Skydeck." The Skydeck project, which involves the construction of a high-profile structure in the city, was estimated to cost between ₹400 to ₹500 crore. Despite the pressing need to address the revenue deficit, the government decided to take the initiative and support the proposal for the Skydeck project. This decision was made with the intention of enhancing the city's image and attracting a significant number of tourists, which the government believed would ultimately benefit the state's economy. Rakshit, a dedicated member of a local NGO, raised concerns about the Skydeck project. He argued that, given the current financial constraints and the projected revenue deficit, the allocation of such a substantial sum for the Skydeck project seemed unwarranted. Rakshit pointed out that there was no shortage of private entities capable of executing the project without imposing any financial burden on the state exchequer.

- a) **Identify the key stakeholders and ethical issues involved in this case.**
- b) **Is it ethical for the government to use public funds for a high-profile project like the Skydeck when there are significant financial shortfalls? What principles should be used to ensure the judicious utilization of public funds? [20M]**

Introduction:

"Public funds are the trust of the people in the hands of their government; they must be utilized with utmost integrity and responsibility." The recent proposal by the state government to support the high-profile Skydeck project, amidst a significant revenue deficit, has sparked a debate on the ethical utilization of public funds.

Body:

The stakeholders involved in the case are:

1. **State government:** Responsible for making budgetary decisions and addressing the revenue deficit.
2. **Citizens:** Taxpayers who fund government projects and are affected by budgetary allocations.
3. **Local NGO and Rakshit:** Advocates for responsible spending and community welfare.
4. **Private entities:** Potential investors capable of undertaking the Skydeck project without state funding.
5. **Tourists and businesses:** Potential beneficiaries of the Skydeck project, which could enhance tourism and economic activity.

Ethical Issues involved in the case are:

1. **Allocation of public funds:** The ethical dilemma of prioritizing a high-profile project over essential public services during a financial shortfall.

2. **Transparency and accountability:** Ensuring that the decision-making process is transparent and holds the government accountable for its expenditure.
3. **Opportunity cost:** Considering what other critical areas might suffer due to the diversion of funds to the Skydeck project.
4. **Public trust:** Maintaining the trust of citizens in the government's fiscal responsibility.

Ethical evaluation of the decision

Yes, it's ethical to build a sky deck because:

1. **Long-term economic benefit:** The Skydeck project could significantly boost tourism, potentially generating revenue that could alleviate the deficit in the long run.

E.g. Tourism boosts the inflow of money in the long term.
2. **Enhancing city image:** A high-profile structure could put the city on the map, attracting international attention and investment.

E.g. Social media viral
3. **Economic multiplier effect:** The construction and operation of the Skydeck could create jobs and stimulate economic activity in various sectors.

E.g. Adhere to utilitarian philosophy where maximum benefit is derived.

No, it's not ethical to build a sky deck because:

1. **Financial mismanagement:** Allocating substantial funds to a non-essential project during a deficit period can be seen as irresponsible and misaligned with immediate financial priorities.

E.g. Lack of empathy towards the poor section.
2. **Neglect of essential services:** The funds could be better used to support essential public services that might be suffering due to budget constraints.

E.g. Counter the inclusive and good governance principles.
3. **Private sector potential:** Rakshit's point that private entities could undertake the project without burdening the state finances is valid and suggests an alternative solution.

Principles that must be followed for judicious utilization of public funds:

1. **Fiscal responsibility:** Ensuring that government spending is aligned with the current financial realities and does not exacerbate the deficit.
2. **Prioritization of needs:** Allocating funds to projects and services that address the most pressing needs of the population.
3. **Transparency and public participation:** Engaging with the public and stakeholders to ensure that spending decisions are transparent and reflect the community's priorities.
4. **Cost-benefit analysis:** Conducting thorough analyses to ensure that the long-term benefits of a project justify the immediate financial outlay.
5. **Equity and fairness:** Ensuring that the allocation of funds benefits a broad spectrum of society and does not disproportionately favor certain groups.

Conclusion:

The decision to fund the Skydeck project, amidst a revenue deficit, must be weighed against the **principles of fiscal responsibility, prioritization of needs, and transparency**. The ethical utilization of public funds is paramount in maintaining public trust and ensuring the equitable distribution of resources for the welfare of all citizens.

Q. As a police inspector in a town renowned for its peace and religious harmony, you receive a report about a robbery that took place at Arun's Fair Price Shop. Upon arriving at the scene and conducting an initial inquiry, you learn that Arun has accused two individuals, Adil and Pasha, of attempting to rob his shop in the afternoon. According to Arun, when he confronted them, they not only tried to steal from the shop but also attempted to physically assault his child, who was present at the scene. Arun's quick actions to alert the local community led to a crowd gathering, which prompted Adil and Pasha to flee. Initially, you assumed this was a straightforward robbery case. However, later in the evening, Adil and Pasha voluntarily presented themselves at the police station. During their statements, they revealed that the root of the conflict was not merely theft but rather a dispute over the distribution of food. They alleged that Arun had been systematically discriminating against certain individuals based on their religion in the food distribution process. Their attempt to address this issue with Arun had apparently escalated into a physical altercation. After conducting a thorough and detailed investigation, you find that both Arun and Adil's accounts of the incident hold validity. Arun's complaint about the robbery and physical assault, as well as Adil and Pasha's allegations of religious discrimination, are both substantiated by evidence and testimonies.

In the given circumstance answer the following:

Identify the key stakeholders in case.

- a) What are the ethical dilemmas involved in this case?
- b) What are the options available to you in the given case?
- c) Which option would you choose and why?
- d) Recommend some measures that can be taken to reduce social intolerance in the town. [20M]

Reference: [Times of India](#)

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Why the question: In Lucknow's Hussainganj area, a fair price shop owner's son, Shekhar Sahu, was violently attacked and bitten by two men during an attempted robbery, causing serious injuries.

Key Demand of the question: To write about stakeholders, ethical dilemmas, and options available to you in the case, explain your choice and action, and recommend measures to reduce intolerance.

Structure of the answer:

Introduction: Start with the nuances of the case study.

Body:

- First, identify stakeholders.
- Next explain the ethical dilemmas involved in the case.
- Next, list out the 4-5 options available to you in the given case.
- Next, explain which choice you will make and elaborate why.
- Then, recommend measures to reduce such intolerance issues in society.

NOTE: The question carries 5 subparts which means each question carries 4 marks. Hence you don't need to write merit and demerit for options available to you. Just mention at least 4-5 options.

Conclusion: Conclude by summarising.

2Q. As a police inspector in a town renowned for its peace and religious harmony, you receive a report about a robbery that took place at Arun's Fair Price Shop. Upon arriving at the scene and conducting an initial inquiry, you learn that Arun has accused two individuals, Adil and Pasha, of attempting to rob his shop in the afternoon. According to Arun, when he confronted them, they not only tried to steal from the shop but also attempted to physically assault his child, who was present at the scene. Arun's quick actions to alert the local community led to a crowd gathering, which prompted Adil and Pasha to flee. Initially, you assumed this was a straightforward robbery case. However, later in the evening, Adil and Pasha voluntarily presented themselves at the police station. During their statements, they revealed that the root of the conflict was not merely theft but rather a dispute over the distribution of food. They alleged that Arun had been systematically discriminating against certain individuals based on their religion in the food distribution process. Their attempt to address this issue with Arun had apparently escalated into a physical altercation. After conducting a thorough and detailed investigation, you find that both Arun and Adil's accounts of the incident hold validity. Arun's complaint about the robbery and physical assault, as well as Adil and Pasha's allegations of religious discrimination, are both substantiated by evidence and testimonies.

In the given circumstance answer the following:

- c) Identify the key stakeholders in case.
- d) What are the ethical dilemmas involved in this case?
- e) What are the options available to you in the given case?
- f) Which option would you choose and why?
- g) Recommend some measures that can be taken to reduce social intolerance in the town. [20M]

Introduction:

The case presents a complex scenario in a town known for **its peace and religious harmony**, where a robbery incident at Arun's Fair Price Shop unravels deeper issues of religious discrimination. This situation creates a delicate balance between justice and maintaining communal harmony.

Body:

a) Stakeholders:

1. **Arun:** Shop owner accusing Adil and Pasha of robbery and assault.
2. **Adil and Pasha:** Accused of robbery, alleging religious discrimination.
3. **Local community:** Potentially affected by the incident and its implications on social harmony.
4. **Police department:** Responsible for investigating the case and maintaining order.
5. **Religious leaders and community influencers:** Their role in maintaining or disrupting communal harmony.
6. **Victim's child:** Affected by the alleged assault and emotional trauma.

b) Ethical dilemmas:

1. **Justice vs. Communal harmony:** Balancing the need for impartial justice with the potential risk of inciting communal tensions.
2. **Impartiality vs. Public perception:** Ensuring unbiased investigation despite community pressures and preconceived notions.
3. **Truth vs. Consequences:** Deciding whether to expose the truth if it might lead to unrest or exacerbating social tensions.
4. **Duty to law vs. Ethical responsibility:** Adhering to legal procedures while addressing underlying social issues like discrimination.

c) Options available:

1. **Arrest Adil and Pasha** based solely on Arun's complaint and proceed with charges of robbery and assault.
2. **Dismiss Arun's accusations** and take no action against Adil and Pasha, citing the discrimination allegations.
3. **Conduct a mediation** between Arun, Adil, and Pasha to address the issues of theft and discrimination without formal legal action.
4. **File separate charges** against both parties: robbery/assault against Adil and Pasha and discrimination against Arun.
5. **Engage community leaders** to address the broader issue of religious discrimination while handling the case legally.

d) Preferred option and justification:

Option 4: File separate charges against both parties—robbery and assault against Adil and Pasha, and religious discrimination against Arun. This approach ensures that both crimes are addressed, maintaining the integrity of justice. By separating the issues, you can avoid escalating communal tensions while still holding individuals accountable for their actions. This balanced approach respects the law,

addresses the concerns of all parties, and helps to prevent the situation from being exploited for communal gain.

e) **Measures to reduce social intolerance:**

1. **Community engagement programs:** Regular dialogues and workshops involving different religious communities to promote understanding and harmony.

E.g. Celebrate secular festival like Independence Day.

2. **Awareness campaigns:** Educating the public about the dangers of discrimination and the importance of unity through media and local initiatives.

E.g. Campaign like “Sarva Dharma Sama Bhava”

3. **Strengthening legal frameworks:** Ensuring strict enforcement of anti-discrimination laws and prompt action against offenders.

E.g. Art 44 - Uniform civil code.

4. **Involving religious leaders:** Encouraging religious leaders to speak out against intolerance and foster a message of peace.

E.g. Leaders like Sadhguru, and Vasudev Jaggi

5. **Police sensitization training:** Training officers to handle sensitive issues like religious discrimination with empathy and professionalism.

Conclusion:

By addressing the immediate legal issues and taking proactive steps to foster social cohesion, the town's legacy of peace can be preserved. The **choice to pursue both legal action and community reconciliation reflects a commitment** to fairness and the prevention of future conflicts.