

VAJIRAM & RAVI

GENERAL STUDIES

Ethics Full Length Test

MONIKA SRIVASTAVA

AIR 16

Time allowed: 3 Hours

Maximum Marks: 250

STUDENT ID.: ADMIN NO. :

NAME:

MOBILE NO.:

EMAIL.:

SUBMISSION DATE:

Attempted only 12 questions

QUESTION PAPER SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS

Please read each of the following instructions carefully before attempting questions:

There are **TWENTY** questions printed in **ENGLISH**. All the questions are compulsory.

The number of marks carried by a question/ part is indicated against it. Word limit in questions,

wherever specified, should be adhered to. Any page or portion of the page left blank in the Questioncum-Answer Booklet must be clearly struck off.

| Q No. | Marks | Q No. | Marks | Q No. | Marks |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| Q1 | /10 | Q8 | /10 | Q15 | /15 |
| Q2 | /10 | Q9 | /10 | Q16 | /15 |
| Q3 | /10 | Q10 | /10 | Q17 | /15 |
| Q4 | /10 | Q11 | /15 | Q18 | /15 |
| Q5 | /10 | Q12 | /15 | Q19 | /15 |
| Q6 | /10 | Q13 | /15 | Q20 | /15 |
| Q7 | /10 | Q14 | /15 | Total | /250 |

Instructions:–

- Legible Scanning:** Exercise due diligence in scanning your scripts for clear legibility
- Submissions** marred by poor scanning, notably those with illegible sections or blackened pages due to improper scanning, risk being excluded from the evaluation process.
- Non-Adherence Consequences:** Failure to comply with the aforementioned instructions may lead to the disqualification of your submission.

For Student Only

| | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Start Time - | End Time - |
| Mode of Examination | Online <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Offline <input type="checkbox"/> |

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| Receiving date - |
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| Dispatch date - |
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| Parameters | | Good | Average | Needs Improvement |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|----------------|--------------------------|
| Conceptual Understanding | | | | |
| Understanding Demand of Question | | | | |
| Structure | Introduction | | | |
| | Body | | | |
| | Conclusion | | | |
| Presentation-Illustrations, flowcharts, diagrams, etc. | | | | |
| Language and Handwriting | | | | |
| No. of Questions Attempted | | | | |
| Adherence to Word Limit: Yes/No | | | | |

Mentor's Feedback
VAJIRAM & RAVI

Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



Evaluator/Reviewer Suggestions



👍 😊 All the Best 😊 👍

(Answer questions in NOT MORE than the word limit specified for each in the parenthesis. Content of the answer is more important than its length.)

1. Write short notes on the following in 75 words each:
- Role of Intellectual Integrity in administrative decision making.
 - Role of Citizen Charter in good governance.

(10 marks, 150 words)

i) Role of intellectual integrity in administrative decision making :-

Intellectual integrity entails consistent and unwavering commitment to intellectual values, morality and ethics. It can act as a guiding light in administrative decision making in below ways-

a) Helps in seeking truth

eg) Satyendra Dubey role in finding truth about Golden Quadrilateral irregularities
↳ His search for truth

b) Imbibes curiosity and attitude for fact finding

eg) IAS Durga Shakti Nagpal Curiosity in cracking down on Sand mafia case

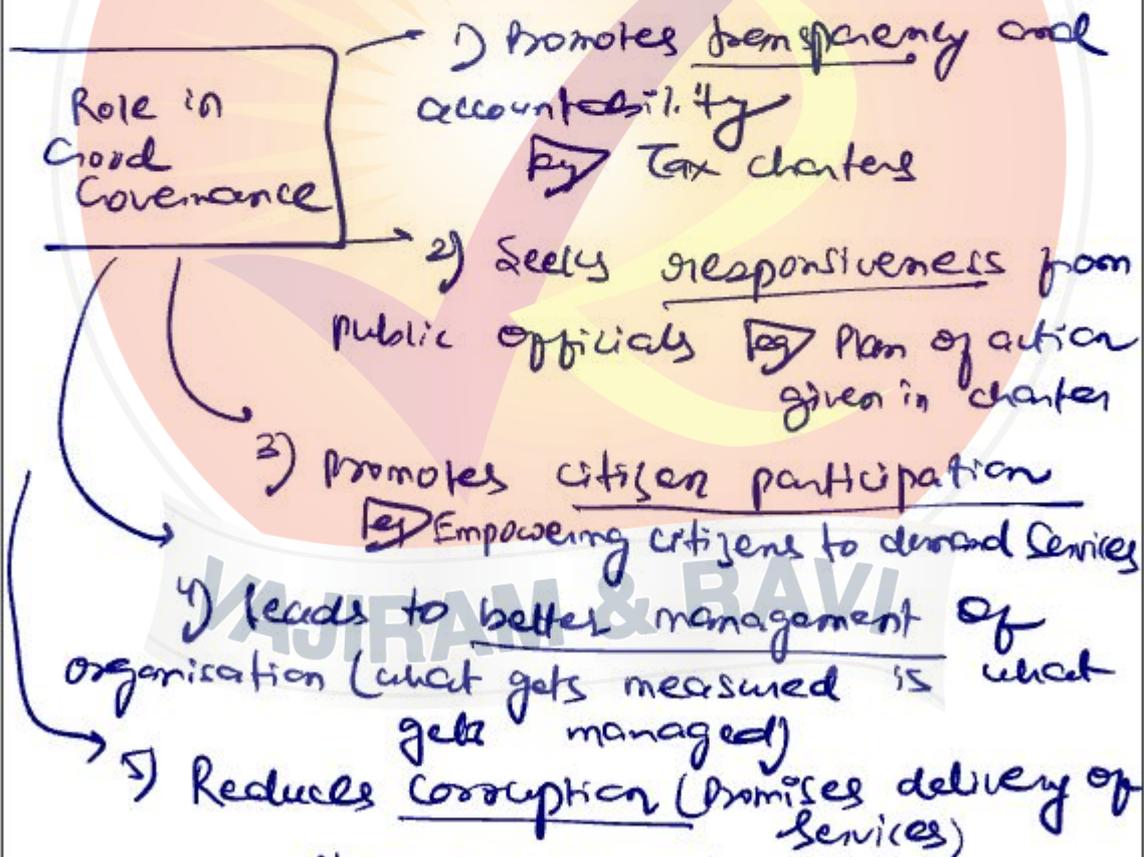
c) leads to civilisational growth

eg) Raja Ram Mohan Roy quest for Sati abolition due to intellectual integrity

Apart from intellectual integrity, moral and financial integrity also plays important role in decision making. A civil servant must strive towards inculcating them for good governance

i) Role of citizen charter in good governance

citizen charter is a set of document containing expected services by an organisation, estimated timelines and prescribed obligability for availing services



citizen charter acts as a means to achieve good governance and can not be an end in itself. Necessary administrative reforms are much needed.

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2. Compare and contrast the roles of family and educational institutions in value inculcation. How can these two institutions complement each other?

(10 marks, 150 words)

"Education without values, as useful it is, leaves a man a more clever devil" This quote emphasises role of value education which is return shaped by family and educational institutions

Role of family

i) First informal source of learning

eg Indira Nooyi mentioned role of her mother in success

ii) Acceptance and impact is significantly higher eg Drug Abuse → family first responder

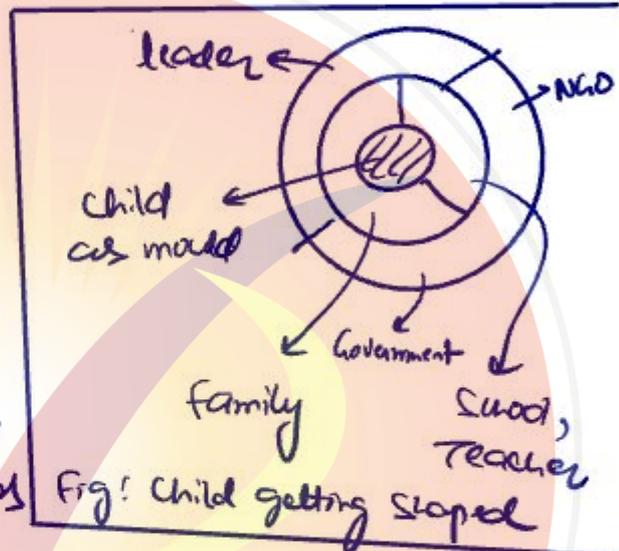
iii) observational form of learning

eg Mother doing charity → Empathy and Compassion

iv) life skills eg cleaning toilets, making bed

Role of Educational Institutions

i) First formal source of learning (Institutionalised form)



- i) Imbibes values like equality
 - ↳ Uniform Code, Mid Day Meal
- ii) Tolerance and diversity
 - ↳ Sudama-Krishna friendship despite diverse backgrounds ↔ Empathy
- iii) Helps develop leadership skills
 - ↳ Sports, debating competition

Complementing Role

- ↳ Both help in inculcating universal values like equality, empathy and compassion
- ↳ Both act as foundational source of learning in initial years

Contrasting Role

- ↳ Differing set of values (Public vs Private life)
- ↳ Source of values might differ
 - ↳ Family - culture, Religion etc
 - ↳ School - Textbooks, organisational norms
- In the era of mindless consumerism and instant gratification, role of family and educational institutions are of immense significance. Balancing Panchakosha principles of NEP 2020 with family values would lead to moral excellence in Armit Kaul

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3. "Tolerance is not just about accepting differences; it is about appreciating and celebrating diversity." Discuss the importance of tolerance for governance. How can civil servants foster a culture of tolerance and inclusivity in a diverse country like India?

(10 marks, 150 words)

"I might not agree with what you say but I will defend your right to speech till I die" This quote perfectly explains tolerance which goes beyond mere passive acceptance of differences and diverse opinions.

Significance of tolerance for governance

i) Promotes critical thinking and scientific temper (due to open mindedness)

↳ Iron Section firmness despite disagreement from political parties

ii) Leads to inclusive growth as takes care of minority rights

↳ Sabka Saath Sabka Vikaas

iii) Promotes Unity in Diversity

↳ EK Bharat Shrestha Bharat

iv) Aligns with constitutional morality

↳ Article 14 - Harmony and Brotherhood

↳ Leads to fulfillment of social contract
↳ LGBTQ rights

Role of civil servants in fostering tolerance

- i) Act as role model themselves
↳ A.P.J. Abdul Kalam friendship with Hindu priests
- ii) Promote initiatives at educational institutes
↳ Mid Day meal
↳ Uniform distribution
↳ Eopalganj DM eating mid day meal with children
- iii) Tolerance as core value of work culture via training, role play
↳ Deconstruction module at UBSNAA
- iv) Inclusive Policies and schemes
↳ Reservation for marginalised sections
- v) Grievance redressal mechanism to ensure everyone is getting heard
↳ Junta Darbar at DM office

The steel frame of tolerance plays crucial role in upholding diversity and inclusivity of Akhand Bharat. Tolerance along with other foundational values is the way forward.

Introduction

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Marks:

4. "A person's character is most accurately revealed in their private life, not their public persona." Critically examine this statement in the context of public servants and their ethical conduct

(10 marks, 150 words)

Public servant faces different set of values, deal with different set of people in their public and private life. However, their true character is judged how they conduct themselves when noone is watching (private life)

Character: Ethics in Private life

- i) Person who is ethical in private life would be ethical in public life too (eg M Vishveshwara 2 candle story)
- ii) Virtue Ethics (A person with character would do no wrong, neither in public nor private)
eg Lal Bahadur Shastri: gave up 1 meal himself before asking nation to do so
- iii) Divergent character in public and private life → Hypocrisy
eg Politician preaching about plastic pollution and using single use plastic at home

ii) Person of integrity could uphold his values even when there is no one monitoring. \Rightarrow Following basic rules even at 3am

Character - Ethics in Public life

i) Differing situation and context
 \Rightarrow Civil servant personally against Capitalism \rightarrow Implement rules of Capitalist government with objectivity

ii) Public interest of utmost importance
(2nd ARC)

\Rightarrow Working overtime during Kumbh Mela \leftrightarrow compromise private life

ii) Public perception and scrutiny in age of social media requires public persona

A person's character needs to be judged based on public as well as private life based on context. Emotional intelligence should be developed to balance in cases of diverging interests.

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5. Accountability mechanisms are essential for ethical governance but often lead to bureaucratic delays and inefficiencies." Critically examine this statement in the context of Indian administration. Can a balance be struck between accountability and efficiency? Discuss with suitable examples.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Accountability in governance entails answerability, enforcement and responsiveness by bureaucracy. However, it is often said to cause inefficiencies and delays.

Accountability and Bureaucratic Inefficiencies

i) Procedural integrity and adherence could cause delays in public service delivery

eg) Registration of a company needs multiple approvals in India vs China

ii) Red tapism in some of accountability

eg) Bureaucratic attitude and lethargy as part of work culture

iii) Compromises public welfare

eg) Immediate disaster relief

vs rigidity of rules

iv) Risk averse attitude (eg. Fear of 3cs)

CBI
CVC
CAG

Balance between Accountability and Efficiency

i) Technology can be used to bridge the gap

↳ single window clearance for registration

ii) Transition from Rules based approach to Role based

↳ Rule relaxation for exceptional cases like natural disasters

iii) Accountability and efficiency can go hand in hand by increasing citizen participation

↳ RTI, Jan Sunwai (Rajasthan)

iv) Process Re-engineering for better governance

↳ Consolidation of colonial laws (BNS)

Accountability and Efficiency being core foundational values of civil services would go a long way in achieving Ram Rajya. Capacity building must be done for inculcating them as part of Mission Karmayogi

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6. What does each of the following quotations convey to you in present context?
- (a) "Reason is, and ought only to be the slave of the passions, and can never pretend to any other office than to serve and obey them." - David Hume
(10 marks, 150 words)
- (b) "The ultimate measure of a person is not where they stand in moments of comfort and convenience, but where they stand at times of challenge and controversy." - Martin Luther King Jr.
(10 Marks, 150 Words)
- (c) "In matters of conscience, the law of the majority has no place." - Mahatma Gandhi.
(10 Marks, 150 Words)

c) "There is a court above all courts of this world ie court of conscience and all of us are answerable to that".
Conscience is the conscious judgement of inner self

Law of Majority and Conscience

1) historical injustices were justified by majority people

by Raja Ram Mohan Roy's Conscience ↔ Sati Abolition

2) Climate injustices by developed nations having majority voice

by Conscience of Greta Thunberg ↔ voice of everyone

3) Inclination of majority towards Capitalism in 1950s

⇒ India's Conscience ↔ Mixed model

4) Events like Mob lynching, witch blaming → Supported by majority but no place in Conscience

Continuous Assessment of laws are needed to ensure it is not just adhering to majority but is inclusive in nature. Bharat Nyaya Samhita stands tall in that respect

b) Equanimity is maintaining calm and composure even if challenges and controversies just like a tree. It stands tall even when it sheds the dead leaves

Comfort - Convenience is challenge - controversy :- Real Test

1) Shows Emotional intelligence apart from intellectual intelligence
⇒ TN Seshan electoral reforms despite criticism from political parties

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ii) Acts as leading example for the world

eg India's economic crisis (1991) → Path towards becoming Vishva guru

iii) Shows Strength and Resilience

eg Gandhiji's resilience during NCM withdrawal

iv) Brings revolution and act as agent of change

eg Malala's gunshot ↔ Nobel Prize for Peace

v) Leads to Success and National Pride

eg Neeraj Chopra initial years of challenges ↔ Gold in Olympics

Building equanimity

1) Role Models (eg Gandhiji)

2) Self reflections and introspections

3) Role of family and educational institutions

4) Training in simulations (eg NPA module)

The quote emphasises importance of multiple values like courage of conviction, resilience and perseverance to achieve moral excellence

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a) Constitution of India promotes scientific temper and rational thinking to enhance rationality and logic among citizens. However, these values get driven by passion as per the quote.

Role of Passion in Reasoning

i) Passion to achieve success

eg Thomas Edison despite failing more than 100 times → Bulb invention

ii) Passion towards public service

eg Reservation policies and corresponding reasoning from constitution

iii) Passion to promote electoral democracy

eg ECI and strict compliance of Model Code of Conduct despite no legal enforcement

iv) Drives people to go beyond their limits

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7. "Empathy is seeing with the eyes of another, listening with the ears of another, and feeling with the heart of another." How can emotionally intelligent civil servants utilize empathy to improve governance and service delivery?

(10 marks, 150 words)

"Empathy and Compassion are not signs of weak but tools for strong"
It entails putting yourself in shoes of another to understand their pain. It is also key component of emotional intelligence

Role of civil servants to improve (via empathy) governance and service delivery

i) Inclusive governance by considering side of all stakeholders

Ex) Suganya Bharat Abhiyan for specially abled

ii) Citizen Empowerment and better quality of services to marginalised

Ex) IAS Ira Singh employed transgender in her office

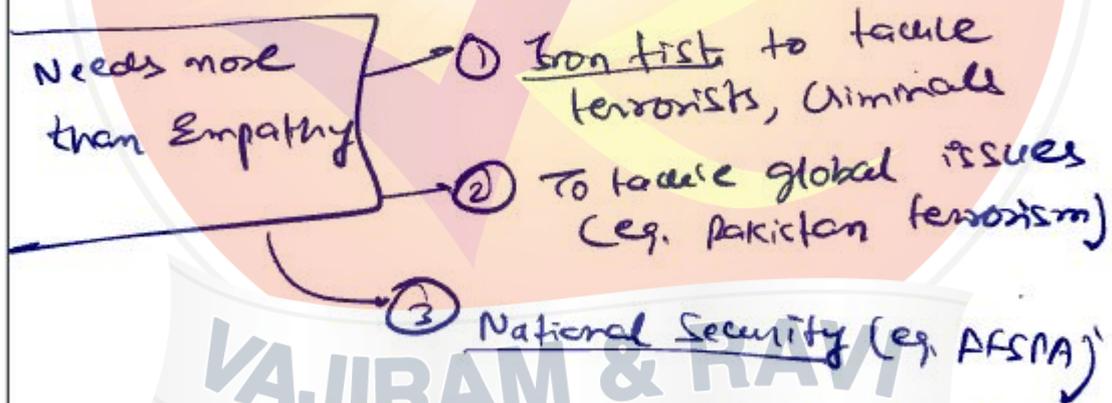
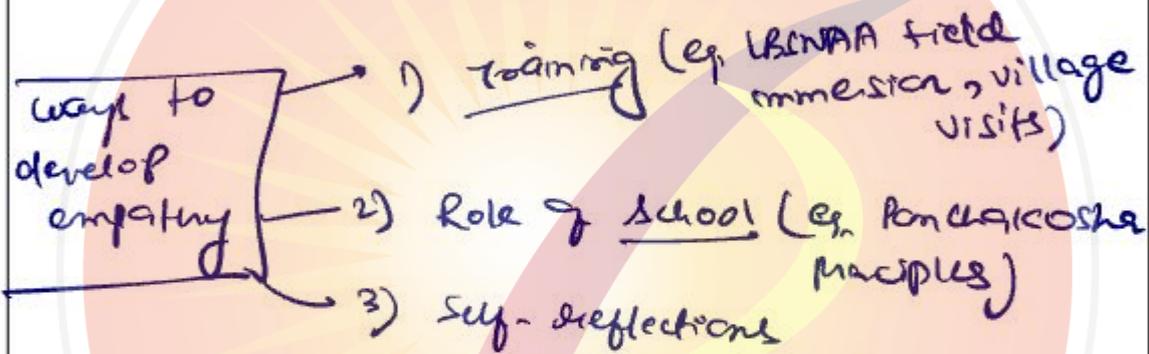
iii) Leads by example and motivates others

Ex) IAS Inayat Khan adopted daughter of Pulwama martyr ↔ Encourage others for adoption

iv) Enhances transparency and accountability
 ↳ Voluntary disclosures under RTI → Reduces hassles of filing RTI

v) Reinforces public trust and perception
 ↳ Santa Dubay at DM office

vi) transition from Rule based to Role based approach
 ↳ Collector Bro → Compassionate Kozhikode



Empathy complemented with other foundational values of Civil Services would lead to ethical governance. Capacity building and administrative reforms are need of the hour

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8. Analyse the ethical implications of the widening gap between rich and poor nations. Is there a moral obligation for developed countries to assist developing ones? (10 marks, 150 words)

"Poverty anywhere is a threat to prosperity everywhere". This quote explains why there is an obligation on developed nations to assist developing ones.

ETHICAL IMPLICATIONS OF WIDENING GAP BETWEEN RICH AND POOR

- ① Unequal allocation of resources due to varying purchasing power
↳ USA, China overexploiting nature
- ② Conflicts and instability
↳ Refugee crisis driven by poverty in developing nations → conflict in developed nations
- ③ Loss of sovereignty and territorial integrity
↳ China's BRI as bargaining tool, military bases
- ④ Rising global problems like extremism, terrorism
↳ unemployment in Pakistan and its role in cross border terrorism

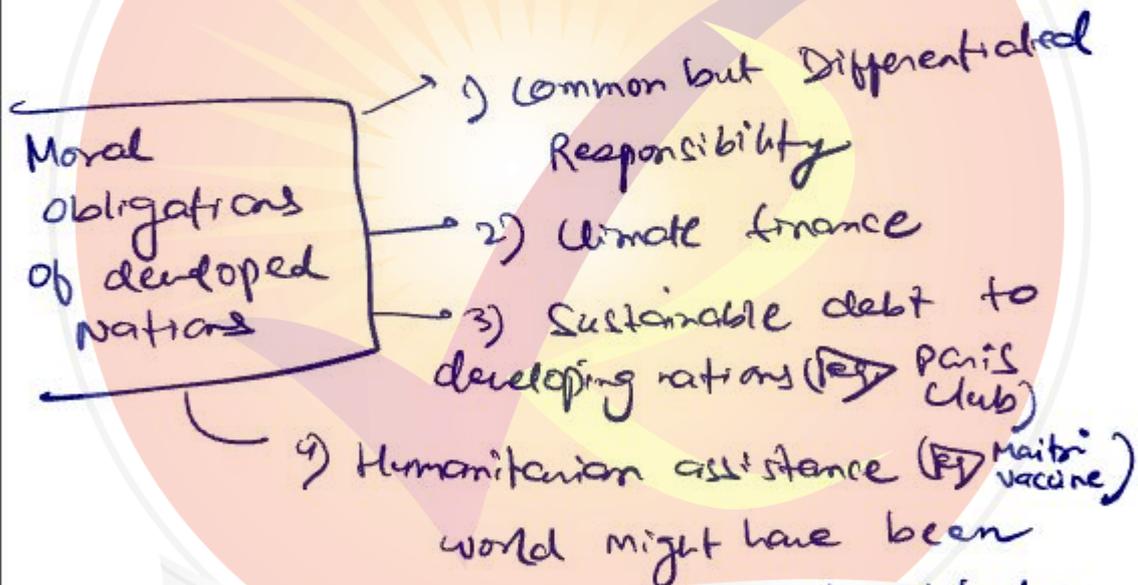
5) Perpetuates inequality in international institutions

eg) WTO dominated by the west

6) Environmental issues as poor countries lack resources to transition towards climate friendly practises

↳ Rise in global temp by 1.1°C (IPCC)

7) Violation of human rights



world might have been divided into constituent territories but humanity is one. Developed nations

must follow India's principal of 'vasudhaiva kutumbakam' and take steps to arrest the widening gap.

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9. "We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children." Discuss the ethical responsibilities of individuals, corporations, and governments in protecting the environment for future generations.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Environmental ethics entails ethical obligations and responsibilities towards mother earth among all stakeholders like individual, corporations etc. As per IPCC, global temperature has already risen by 1.1°C hence steps must be taken to protect future generations.

ETHICAL RESPONSIBILITIES

1) Individuals

- Minimalistic lifestyle
- Move away from mindless consumerism to mindful consumerism
- Duties towards nature
- Adopting practices under mission life

2) Corporations

- Precautionary principle of doing no harm to environment
- Compliance with ESG norms (eg Tata)
- Sustainable products (eg Green Steel)
- Avoid greenwashing (eg Volkswagen)



- CSR spending on environment saving initiatives
 - ↳ Microsoft plastic free goal
 - ↳ NDTV Greenathon

3) Governments

- International collaboration on climate mitigation efforts (↳ International solar alliance)

- South-South Cooperation for climate justice

- Adequate financing towards climate goals
 - ↳ National Adaptation Fund

- Define clear, achievable targets
 - ↳ India NDC and carbon free target by 2070

Environmental Stewardship, ecocentrism and collective effort are much needed by all stakeholders to ensure our future generation inherit a healthy planet. As earth has enough for everyone's needs, but not for anyone's greed, said Gandhiji

10. "Impartiality is not neutrality; it is about treating everyone fairly based on merit and evidence." Explain the difference between impartiality and neutrality in the context of civil service.

(10 marks, 150 words)

Impartiality is one of key foundational values of civil servant which is antithesis to nepotism, favouritism. It ensures everyone gets equal and fair opportunity.

Neutrality on the other hand is a value neutral concept and entails absolute lack of any preference or priority towards target object. For example, India's non-alignment policy.

DIFFERENCE IN CONTEXT OF CIVIL SERVICES

i) Impartiality leads to justice as everyone gets fair and equal treatment
eg opening tender to wider public via newspaper ads

ii) Equitable allocation of resources based on needs and requirements
eg Finance Commission grants to backward regions

iii) Upholds rule of law and Constitutional morality (ref) Article (14, 15)

iv) Neutrality ensures that there is no external sway over decision making (ref) TN Seshan electoral reforms amidst criticism

v) Neutrality ensures administrative efficiency (ref) Policy implementation beyond ruling party

vi) Neutrality evades corruption as Civil servant would be loyal to Constitution and not political masters

(ref) Performance of Meso man E Sreedharan despite political pressure

Impartiality and neutrality are key values enshrined in code of conduct rules of Civil servant. However, they must be complimented with Nolan principles to achieve good governance

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11. The teachings of the Bhagavad Gita offer valuable lessons for ethical conduct in public service. Discuss the relevance of these teachings in navigating the ethical issues of administration in contemporary India.

(10 marks, 150 words)

The timeless teachings of Bhagavad Gita has been acting as a guiding light in navigating ethical issues since ages.

TEACHINGS OF BHAGWAD GITA

i) Nishkama Karma is selfless work

↳ Duty without expecting anything in return

eg) Kisan bedi: Tihar jail reforms

ii) Swadharma is fulfilling own's duty

↳ Its better to fail in one's own duty than to succeed in another

eg) Satyendra Dubey lost his life while doing his duty

iii) Stithapajna (Equanimity)

↳ Remain calm and composed despite challenges

➤ TN section firmness in electoral reforms despite criticism

14) viveka (wisdom)

↳ Intellectual competence along with emotional intelligence

➤ Ajay Bhushan Pandey as UIDAI CEO ↳ IIT Graduate

Issues of administration in Contemporary India

① Corruption, Red tapism
(India ranks 93 out of 108 countries as per Corruption Perception Index)

② Political interference

amidst increasing criminalisation of politics

③ Rising complexities of problems

➤ Cybercrime, environmental pollution

Teachings of Bhagavad Gita could be included as part of school curriculum (as done by Gujarat government) to inculcate value education since childhood. The inclusion of Panchakosha principles in NEP 2020 is step in right direction.

Section - B

Answer the following in not more than 250 words each: Each Question carries 20 marks (20marks x 06 = 120 marks)

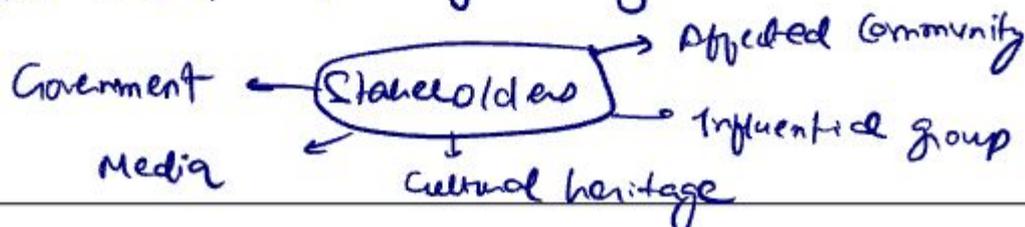
12. In the aftermath of the devastating landslides in Kerala, you, the District Collector, face an arduous task: overseeing relief and rehabilitation efforts amidst widespread destruction and loss. While the immediate priority is to provide aid and shelter to the affected, the complexities of the situation demand a delicate balancing act between transparency, accountability, and community empowerment. The disaster has drawn intense media attention and public scrutiny which places immense pressure on you to ensure that every action is transparent and accountable. However, the urgency of the situation and the sheer scale of the devastation make maintaining meticulous records and following standard procedures a challenge. Further, you receive reports of irregularities in the distribution of relief materials, with some influential individuals and communities allegedly receiving preferential treatment.

You also recognize that true recovery lies in empowering the affected communities to take ownership of the rehabilitation process. However local communities express concerns about the long-term sustainability of proposed rehabilitation plans. Media reports highlight instances of communities resisting relocation to safer areas, citing cultural and emotional attachments to their ancestral lands.

- a) What are the ethical issues involved in the case study?
- b) How do you navigate the sensitive issue of balancing the imperative of safety with respect for community sentiments and cultural heritage?
- c) How do you ensure equitable distribution and maintain transparency in the allocation process, all while under intense media scrutiny?

(20 marks, 250 words)

The above case study displays diverse and complex set of challenges faced by a civil servant. Various values like impartiality, transparency, empathy etc need a calibrated and balanced approach, especially during natural disasters.



- a) Ethical issues involved -
- i) Public service delivery to impacted community on urgent basis
 - ii) Transparency in relief operations to uphold public trust
 - iii) Accountability towards public and media cost operations being taken
 - iv) Administrative efficiency at stake due to procedural complexities
 - v) Duty towards preserving the cultural heritage
 - vi) Abuse of power by influential group → free riders
 - vii) Effectiveness of government rehabilitation plan amidst lack of citizen participation
 - viii) Sustainability of rehabilitation plans under question
 - ix) Recovery of district at social, economic levels after disaster

b) Navigating the issue to strike a balance -

1) Social Persuasion using Aristotle's Ethos, Pathos and Logos -

→ Emotional appeal to people by Quantifying losses (human lives and livelihoods)

→ Logical appeal using facts, figures (impact on their income after relocation, savings on tangible losses, sharing successful stories)

→ Bring in experts to enhance the Credibility of rehabilitation plan (taking leaders of community in confidence, seeking help from local representatives)

2) Assuring communities that their Cultural lands will be preserved

3) Ensuring relocation is done

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as near as possible to existing (and)
4) Seek feedback from them and revised policy based on inputs

g) Equitable distribution by maintaining transparency -

i) Increase citizen participation in relief measures (seek help from local bodies - Panchayat, municipal)

ii) Usage of technology and automation to enhance objectivity, impartiality and transparency (e-govern platform)

iii) Robust monitoring process and strong deterrence against violators (e.g. local volunteers for monitoring)

iv) Grievance redressed mechanism so that no one is left behind

v) Regular interactions and open communication with media

(e.g. usage of official social media handles for information dissemination)

'Sabka Sath Sabka Vishwas'
is the way to inclusive governance
as we approach Viksit Bharat

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