

## **Ethics\_JG Class 03**

6th July, 2024 at 5:00 PM

### **OVERVIEW OF THE PREVIOUS CLASS (05:08 PM)**

#### **SIGNIFICANCE OF TOLERANCE FOR CIVIL SERVICES**

- 1)Tolerance ensures objectivity.
- 2)All Indian civil servants need to serve culturally different sections of society and for this tolerance is crucial.
- 3)It is important to ensure the goal of fraternity and long-lasting peace in society.
- 4)Tolerance promotes innovation - Allowing different ideas to come across people in society and allowing us to challenge our old beliefs.
- 5)It plays a crucial role in promoting social capital.
- 6)It is important to protect the multireligious, multiethnic, and multilingual characteristics.
- 7)It creates a society in which people feel valued and respected and in which there is enough room for every person with different views and opinions.

#### **WAYS TO INCULCATE TOLERANCE (05:40 PM)**

- 1)Exposure to different traditions and cultures through activities such as Bharat darshan, India Day, etc.
- 2)Encouraging a culture of debate and discussion during training for civil servants.
- 3)A code of conduct must prohibit discriminatory attitudes and behavior.
- 4)Organising team sports events to encourage the spirit of teamwork among the civil servants.
- 5)Organising field visits and encouraging interaction with people from different sections of the society.

## QUESTION

- Survival of a multicultural society such as India is dependent on tolerant civil services.  
Comment.

## IMPARTIALITY AND NON PARTISANSHIP (05:54 PM)

- Even though both terms are considered synonymous with each other, both of them are different from each other.
- **Impartiality** refers to the act of not supporting an individual or a group over others and impartial civil servants would get a fair chance without allowing his/her biases to creep into his or her actions.
- **Non Partisanship** on the other hand has a special meaning that conveys a behavior by a civil servant.
- A civil servant is expected to remain neutral and execute the policies irrespective of who is in power.
- Political parties may change hands but civil servants should be willing to serve and provide technical advice to the political executive keeping himself away from the politics of the day.

## EXAMPLE RAJESH BHUSHAN

- He was awarded for his leadership in the national COVID-19 vaccination program where he ensured equitable distribution of vaccines across the country prioritising health over political influences and ensuring that all the regions receive necessary support regardless of political alignment.
- Non-partisanship does not mean blindly following orders from the political executives.
- Civil servants should exercise their discretion and wisdom by making policy choices and making decisions only in the public interest.

## QUESTION

- Why should impartiality and non-partisanship be considered as foundational values in public services especially in present-day socio-political contexts? Illustrate your answer with an example.

## SIGNIFICANCE OF IMPARTIALITY AND NON-PARTISANSHIP (06:41 PM)

- If the civil services are also not non-partisanship, they cannot lend their wholehearted support to reforms introduced by the political executive.
- Civil servants need to be non-partisan to maintain public confidence in the apolitical character of civil services.
- Only when the civil servant is non-partisan can he or she show courage to show alternative policies to the political executive.
- In a democracy, the most important decisions are taken by the people and the representatives of the people.
- The civil servants should only be a tool for the implementation of those decisions.
- Civil services need to serve different sections of the society and there should not be any feeling of discrimination that should exist among the citizens.

## Example:

- 1)VV Laxminarayan -Former Joint director of CBI and played a very important role of Jt director CBI without any biases.
- 2)Rajiv Gauba- Former chief secretary of Jharkhand- impartial coal block allocation.
- 3)Anil Swarup- Coal block allocation pan India in an impartial manner.

## QUESTION

- Maintaining non-partisan behavior has emerged as a critical challenge for the civil services in India today. Examine.

## **CHALLENGES WITH RESPECT TO NON-PARTISAN BEHAVIOUR OF THE CIVIL SERVICES (07:05 PM)**

- 1) Excessive political influence in day to day functioning of the civil services.
- 2) Lack of independence in appointments, postings, transfers.
- 3) Opaque functioning of services in India.
- 4) Implementation of policies to impress the political bosses rather than serving the public.
- 5) Lack of security of tenure.
- 6) Legacy of colonial administration where loyalty to the ruling power was paramount.

## **INCULCATING NON PARTISANSHIP AND IMPARTIALITY (07:13 PM)**

- 1) Reforms in transfer policy.
- 2) Establishing independent oversight bodies to conduct performance appraisals of civil servants.
- 3) Strengthening whistle-blower protection law.
- 4) Legal safeguards against political interference.
- 5) Conducting regular training on ethics, and integrity for civil servants.
- 6) Enacting a robust code of conduct.
- 7) Introducing transparency in public offices.
- 8) Enforcing accountability to the citizens.
- 9) Introduction of an e-governance mechanism to reduce human interaction in the governance process.
- 10) Establishing feedback mechanisms to continuously improve administration.
- 11) Introducing a mandatory cooling-off period.

## **INTEGRITY (07:29 PM)**

- Integrity and honesty are often confused with each other but there is a significant difference between the two.
- Honesty is having a truthful approach toward one's actions, thoughts and expressions.
- Integrity on the other hand is a wholesome value and refers to steadfast adherence to values and principles.
- Integrity is non-negotiable and non-selective.
- It means following the highest standards of behavior and consistency in one's actions, words and thoughts.
- Integrity has the following aspects:
  - a) Choosing the right conduct.
  - b) Openly declaring one's stance and acting consistently with the choice made even if it is inconvenient to do so.
  - c) Integrity is demonstrated through a pattern of behavior over time reflecting a commitment to ethical values not just in specific instances but in all situations.

### **INTEGRITY CAN BE CHARACTERISED INTO (07:59 PM)**

- **1)Academic integrity:** Any academic endeavor should be away from plagiarism. A student who copies an assignment, a researcher who fabricates data and a writer who doesn't recognize his sources lack academic integrity.
- **2)Political Integrity:** Politicians should work according to promises they made in the election.
- **3)Professional Integrity:** Willingness to do the right thing in one's profession. It involves adhering to a profession's code of ethics and social or moral values and being consistent in doing so.
- **4)Intellectual Integrity:** It requires willingness to stand up for your best judgement of truth, by being willing to act in accordance with that judgement. A person with intellectual integrity would relentlessly pursue truth.

**The topic for the next class is the significance**of Integrity, Corruption and related issues.