



# INSIGHTSIAS

SIMPLIFYING IAS EXAM PREPARATION

## **SECURE SYNOPSIS** **MAINS 2019**

**GS- 4**

## **AUGUST 2019**



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



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## Table of Contents

Ethics and Human Interface: Essence, determinants and consequences of Ethics in human actions; dimensions of ethics; ethics in private and public relationships. ....	7
‘The cause of sedition is always found in inequality’ (Aristotle). Explain.(250 words).....	7
“‘We are what we think. All that we are arises with our thoughts. With our thoughts, we make the world.’” Comment upon the relevance of statement in the context of ethical conduct of an individual.(250 words) .....	8
Discuss Aristotle’s concept of ‘Golden Mean’ in Ethics.(250 words).....	9
Mention any two unethical practices in society today and suggest a sustainable solution to each.(250 words) .....	10
Discuss any five naturally acceptable feelings in human-human relationships.(250 words).....	11
Discuss the role played by ethics in maintaining interpersonal relationship. (250 words).....	13
Discuss the Role of Society in inculcating values in individuals. (250 words).....	14
Bhagavat Gita advocates ‘detachment’ as an essential attribute for being successful in one’s duty. Is this virtue still relevant in today’s public administration? Discuss using suitable example and give your opinion.(250 words).....	15
In the context of Artificial intelligence, it is essential that technology should be evaluated both on the basis of its utility and the intention of its creator. Comment.(250 words) .....	17
Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values. ....	18
Is it always right to tell the truth, even if it hurts or destroys someone else? What matters more, the life of an individual or the majesty of the moral law? Explain. (250 words) .....	18
Attitude: content, structure, function; its influence and relation with thought and behaviour; moral and political attitudes; social influence and persuasion.....	20
The political leader is also the primary moral leader of a society”. Explain the reason for the above spectacle. (250 words) .....	20
What do you understand by persuasion? Discuss the significant role played by it in public life.(250 words) .....	22
Explain the relationship between attitude and behaviour. Do you think training can change attitude of people towards weaker sections of the society? Discuss. (250 words).....	23
It’s not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are and what attitude one carries towards life. Do you agree? Substantiate.(250 words) .....	24
What is the difference between social influence and persuasion? How do they influence individuals differently? Discuss.(250 words).....	26

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. ....	27
In the present-day socio-political context, why do you think integrity and impartiality must be considered as foundational values in public services? Illustrate.(250 words) .....	27
What do you understand by objectivity? How can one inculcate objectivity? Discuss in relevance with the need of the same in public services.(250 words) .....	29
When you choose to do work in the public sector it is because you want to make an impact, and in such decisions, dedication plays a significant role. What factors decide dedication? and what is the impact of the same? Elucidate. (250 words) .....	30
Emotional intelligence-concepts, and their utilities and application in administration and governance. ....	32
Discuss the concept of emotional intelligence and suggest the various applications of emotional intelligence. (250 words) .....	32
Debate upon the significance of the concept of emotional intelligence in today's Digital age of alienation. (250 words) .....	35
The EI of the leader plays important role in effectiveness of social interactions with others individuals. In the backdrop of the statement discuss the significance of EI in a leader.(250 words) .....	37
"Anybody can become angry, that is easy; but to be angry with the right person, and to the right degree, and at the right time, and for the right purpose, and in the right way, that is not within everybody's power, that is not easy." —Aristotle. Evaluate the statement in the context of the concept of emotional intelligence. (250 words) .....	39
Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.....	40
Swami Vivekananda was a proponent of a multicultural nation rooted in religious tolerance and modernity. Comment.(250 words) .....	40
Mahatma Gandhi's principle of truth and non-violence emphasizes the use of reform of heart rather than use of violence. In this context discuss the various Gandhian methods and their relevance in modern times.(250 words) .....	42
"I count him braver who overcomes his desires than him who overcomes his enemies." – Aristotle. Critically analyse the relevance and significance of the statement.(250 words) .....	44
Liberation means complete cessation of suffering, different systems of Indian philosophy have given different views about the nature of liberation, but all agree in the point that liberation signifies an end to miseries of life. Explain with suitable examples.(250 words).....	45
Discuss the concept of virtue ethics from the perspectives of its propounders – Plato, Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas.(250 words) .....	47
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. ....	49
High ethical standards in the civil services are often desired, analyse the significance of having high ethical standards in current bureaucratic structure of the country. (250 words).....	49
Discuss the role and significance of independent directors for corporate governance.(250 words)	50
What is meant by public interest? What are the principles and procedures to be followed by the civil servants in public interest?(250 words) .....	51
What is meant by Voice conscience? How do you prepare yourself to heed to the voice of conscience? Discuss.(250 words) .....	53
Critically examine the importance of ethics in International relations and elucidate with suitable illustrations.(250 words) .....	54
Can public ethics separate from private ethics for a public servant? Analyse with suitable illustrations.(250 words) .....	57
Discuss the various issues associated with Corporate governance in India, also suggest what measures can be taken to overcome these issues.(250 words) .....	58
Who in your opinion is a good civil servant? one who is a whistle blower or one who tries to find the possible solution from within the system? Justify your stand with examples. Also discuss the challenges in finding a solution from within the system.(250 words).....	61
Discuss the various ethical issues associated with private health institutions in India, also suggest what measures can be taken to overcome these issues. (250 words) .....	62
What do you understand by term governance, good governance and ethical governance?(250 words) .....	65
<b>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. ....</b>	<b>66</b>
Explain any four generally accepted probity principles that serve to maintain the integrity of the process.(250 words).....	66
What are professional codes of ethics? Discuss the relevance of it in public services. (250 words)	68
Discuss the core principles of citizens charter. How should an organisation formulate citizen's charter? explain. (250 words).....	70
Utilization of public funds in a country must obey to the principles of transparency and efficiency. do you agree? Give your opinion with suitable examples.(250 words) .....	72
"Public service must be more than doing a job efficiently and honestly. It must be a complete dedication to the people and to the nation." Explain.(250 words) .....	74



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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.

**'The cause of sedition is always found in inequality' (Aristotle). Explain.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question is based on the theme of Aristotle's theory of justice in his work 'Politics'.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the statement, the context and theory propounded by Aristotle.*

### **Directive:**

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

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Briefly explain the gist of the statement in question.*

#### **Body:**

*Explain that justice for Aristotle is a complete virtue, though not absolute. It is a relative concept understood in relation to others in the society.*

*Aristotle theory of justice is linked to his idea of equality. Justice demands distribution of officers, rewards etc. According to the contribution based on merit of the citizens. He held that persons who are equal and possess equal merit ought to be treated equally. In other words, those who contribute more to the performance of good action in services of the state thus show greater civic excellence deserve more from the state than those who contribute less.*

*Therefore, Aristotle's theory of justice is based on 'proportional equality', which means that people should receive from the state, in the way of just rewards, proportionately to their merits.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of such theories.*

#### **Introduction:**

"Conduct or speech inciting people to rebel against the authority of a State or monarch" can be considered as Sedition. Aristotle equates rebellion with sedition and the caused for the same is inequality present in the society.

#### **Body:**

According to Aristotle, in democracies, discontentment is bred by the demagogues who attack the rich either individually or collectively and build hatred among the people who become revengeful and violent and this situation leads to conflicts.

In oligarchies, revolutions occur when masses experience an unpleasant treatment by the officials resulting in dissensions within the governing class. Personal disputes may further the flames of fire and though imperceptible, changes in the class structure of society may invisibly alter the ethos.

Aristotle further believed that it is not necessary that oligarchy become democracy or vice versa, but they might change into a completely different system altogether. In aristocracies, revolutions occur when the circle of the rulers get narrowed down and become thinner and thinner. It is, in fact, the

disequilibrium in the balance of the different elements or parts of the constitution that causes revolutions.

As far as the monarchies and the tyrannies are concerned, **revolutions are caused by insolence, resentment of insults, fears, contempt, desire for fame, influence of neighbouring states, sexual offences and physical infirmities.**

#### **Conclusion:**

Thus, Aristotle emphasises to reduce the inequality in the society. Indian Constitution has also incorporated this goal of reducing the concentration of wealth in few hands in the Directive Principles of State Policy.

*"We are what we think. All that we are arises with our thoughts. With our thoughts, we make the world." Comment upon the relevance of statement in the context of ethical conduct of an individual.(250 words)*

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The quote is given by Gautam Buddha, one has to elucidate upon the statement in relevance of ethical conduct.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the relevance and significance of the quote.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Define and expand upon the quote.*

##### **Body:**

*The quote needs to be explained with detailed case studies, one should explain how it is clear that an individual is what he/she thinks, it's the thoughts that build a person, the attitude and values are engrained based upon the thoughts of a person.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with importance of thoughts and values in individual's life.*

##### **Introduction:**

It is said that our beliefs become our thoughts, our thoughts become our words, our words become our actions, our actions become our habits, our habits become our values, our values become our destiny. Human action and attitude is determined by the thought process and the consciousness one possesses. It is made up of bundle of thoughts that gives a shape to his action and motive and ingrained in his personality.

##### **Body:**

Good & positive thoughts create positive vibrations that affect human beings for their welfare. Similarly, unhealthy, bad & negative thoughts emit negative vibrations that cause harm & damage to human beings. The French revolution was brought about by the thoughts relating to liberty, equality & fraternity. Great thinkers like Plato, Aristotle, Karl Marx, and M.K.Gandhi revolutionized the world even



after them by their powerful positive thoughts. Only it is essential that we should have positive thinking. We must channelize our thoughts in positive way because the energy we put into the universe will dictate the world around us.

We keep hearing from our childhood 'As you think, so you become.' So let us beware of our thoughts, negative thoughts erode our energy & positive thoughts provide us enlightenment. Our thought matters. Our positive thoughts will create our feelings, our positive feelings will create our actions, and our positive actions will create our life positive. They are all interconnected.

The fact is that thinking capacity of man has made him supreme among all living beings. We only need to make our thoughts positive & systematic. The systematic thought is the most significant factor behind all the major changes & the revolutions which have taken place in the world till now.

### **Conclusion:**

As Swami Vivekananda says, "Thoughts are our chief motivating force. Fill your mind with healthy and higher thoughts, as thoughts are founders of our character, which ultimately form our destiny."

### **Discuss Aristotle's concept of 'Golden Mean' in Ethics.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is straightforward and is based on the theory of golden mean propounded by Aristotle.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the concept of Golden mean and how can one apply it.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*In brief highlight the significance of the concept.*

##### **Body:**

*Explain the theory – according to Aristotle the Moral behavior is the mean between two extremes – at one end is excess, at the other deficiency. He emphasizes that one must find a moderate position between those two extremes, and thus one will be acting morally.*

*The concept of Aristotle's theory of golden mean is represented in his work called "Nicomachean Ethics", in which Aristotle explains the origin, nature and development of virtues which are essential for achieving the ultimate goal, happiness, which must be desired for itself.*

*Present examples/case studies where these principles can be applied and substantiate your answer.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of the theory and its relevance.*

##### **Introduction:**

**Golden mean or "middle way"** is an ancient concept described in various traditions. The concept was often discussed within ethical contexts and considered as a virtue. In Western philosophy, Aristotle in particular elaborated the concept in his **Nicomachean Ethics**. The "golden mean" is the **desirable middle between two extremes, one of excess and the other of deficiency**.

##### **Body:**

The golden mean represents a **balance between extremes**, i.e. vices.

**For example**, Courage is a good example of this philosophy. Excess of it is considered as rash or overconfident, while its deficiency is known as cowardice. Another example on the similar lines is that of generosity, which is a mean. Excess of it will be wastefulness, whereas, deficiency will be stinginess.

This **doesn't mean that the golden mean is the exact arithmetical middle between extremes**, but that the middle depends on the situation. There is no universal middle that would apply to every situation.

Consider, **for example**, if a person was cheated out of his life savings, then, the person would be angry, and it would be very close towards being excessive, an extreme. As opposed to, say, a minor accidental mishap, which might not get the tempers rising, and the lack of anger would inch towards indifference, another extreme. In both cases, however, both the reactions are considered 'mean', due to the varying level of involvements.

The **golden mean applies only for virtues**, not vices.

The **importance of the golden mean** is that it **re-affirms the balance needed in life**. Today's modern man usually succumbs in the extreme of excess, which can be seen in the uncontrollable accumulation of material wealth, food, alcohol, drugs, but he can descend into deficiency as well, like inadequate attention to education, healthy sport activities, intellectual pursuits, etc.

Even **Buddha** summarized the Golden Mean as the Middle Way, a moderate path between extreme self-denial and sensual, materialistic self-indulgence.

### **Conclusion:**

The people in modern society need to overcome their pride and arrogance and look in nature for guidance, because we all depend on it. Staring into the sky and imagining ourselves in heaven will not accomplish anything; it is better instead to accept our role in the world and appreciate the beauty of life, and death, which gives meaning to it.

**Mention any two unethical practices in society today and suggest a sustainable solution to each. (250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question is straight forward and from the static aspects of the syllabus.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*One must bring out any 2 unethical practices prevalent in the Indian society.*

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Discuss the need on ethics.*

#### **Body:**

*There is nothing much to deliberate in such a question, students may choose to write any relevant incidences from day to day life or from personal experiences justifying the unethical practices that they might have witnessed along with suitable solutions to overcome the same.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with need of ethics in the society for betterment.*

**Introduction:**

Unethical practices are those which are contrary to our own moral principles as well as the principles admired in the community one lives in. It is an action that falls outside of what is considered morally right or proper for a person, a profession or an industry. Individuals can behave unethically, as can businesses, professionals and politicians.

**Body:**

Moral principles such as fairness, honesty, dignity, and concern for individual rights are of profound importance.

*Here, you can divide the answer under heads and give your own examples and solutions to it. Few examples are added here*

**Unethical practices among Individuals:**

Treating male and female child differently. Practice of untouchability, female genital mutilation etc.

**Unethical practices among Businesses:**

The case of Volkswagen hiding the emission test results.

**Unethical practices by Professionals:**

Doping by athletes to improve performance.

**Unethical practices among Politicians and the Government:**

Snooping on individuals telephone calls.

**Conclusion:**

To be unethical in one's behavior and practices means that one is betraying one's inner character and eventually experiencing a diminished faith in oneself. Education and Sensitization of the moral values will help individuals to avoid the unethical practices.

**Discuss any five naturally acceptable feelings in human-human relationships.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

***Key demand of the question:***

*Explain any five naturally acceptable feelings in human-human relationships.*

***Directive:***

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

***Structure of the answer:******Introduction:***

*Discuss the significance of feelings and their importance in human-human relationships.*

***Body:***

*One can discuss any key values ranging from trust, respect, affection, care, guidance, reverence, glory, gratitude and love. Explain any five in detail and how these values foster stronger human-human relationship.*

*Explain how such values foster happiness, quality of life, bring mutual happiness among human-human relationships.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of such values.*

**Introduction:**

There are certain basic and important values in maintaining relationship. These values or feelings, we all know, are the backbone of health and happy family relations. The feelings, emotions, sentiments and respect all are of real importance. These values lead to elimination of friction and establishment of total harmony in relationship on long term basis.

**Body:**

- **Trust:** It is the foundational value in relationship. To be assured that each human being inherently wants oneself and the other to be happy and prosperous. If we have trust in the other, we are able to see the other as a relative and not as an adversary.
- **Respect:** Respect means individuality. The sense of individuality is prime object. This is the first basic step towards respect. Once we realized that we are individual then only we can see our self different from others. In other words, respect means right evaluation, to be evaluated as I am.
- **Affection:** Affection is the feeling of being related to the other. Affection comes when I recognize that we both want to make each other happy and both of us are similar.
- **Care:** The feeling of care is the feeling to nurture and protect the body of our relative. Or in other words a state of mind in which one is troubled; worry, anxiety, or concern is called care.
- **Love:** Love is the emotion of strong affection and personal attachment. In other words, love is a feeling of warm personal attachment or deep affection, as for a parent, child, or friend. This feeling or value is also called the complete value since this is the feeling of relatedness to all human beings.
- **Gratitude:** Gratitude is the feeling of acceptance for those who have made efforts for my excellence. Gratitude is an emotion that occurs after people receive help, depending on how they interpret the situation.
- **Reverence:** The feeling of acceptance of excellence in the other is called reverence. When we see that the other has achieved this excellence- which means to understand and to live in harmony at all the levels of living ensuring continuity of happiness, we have a feeling of reverence for him/her.

**Conclusion:**

The feelings of being related to every human being leads to our participation in an undivided society. By living in relationship in the family, we get the occasion to gain the assurance that the other person is an

aid to me and not a hindrance. With the understanding of values in human relationship, we are able to recognize the connectedness with every individual correctly and fulfil it.

### Discuss the role played by ethics in maintaining interpersonal relationship. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

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

**Key demand of the question:**

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

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Explain what are interpersonal relationships in short.*

**Body:**

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

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

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reasserting importance of ethics.*

**Introduction:**

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

**Body:**

**Role of Ethics in maintaining interpersonal relationship:**

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



- **Tolerance:** Being open to various ideas and being open to constructive criticism.

### **Conclusion:**

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

### **Discuss the Role of Society in inculcating values in individuals. (250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is straightforward and is about discussing the Role of Society in inculcating values in individuals.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the Role of Society in inculcating values in individuals.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Discuss what are values and their importance.*

##### **Body:**

*Explain what is the importance of values in society?*

*Role played by society in imparting values to the individuals.*

*Discuss the elements of the society who have great influence in people include: Friends, Neighbors, Media, films, Religion, Leaders, Government etc.*

*Explain in what way they influence on the formation and inculcation of values in each of these individuals.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of the role played by society.*

##### **Introduction:**

Society is a 'web of relationship' and these relations are fundamental for understanding human behaviour and different institutions of society. Values are "things that have an intrinsic worth in usefulness or importance to the possessor," or "principles, standards, or qualities considered worthwhile or desirable." These are influenced by various factors like family, society, social institutions etc.

##### **Body:**

Man lives in society for his mental and intellectual development. Society preserves our culture and transmits it to the succeeding generations. Society liberates as well as limits our potential as an individual and also shapes our attitudes, beliefs, moral and ideals. A society thrives best when it is composed of men and women who are intelligent, hard-working, honest and dutiful.

Society teaches values such as:

- Social Cohesion

- Social Harmony
- Unity among the people of different religions
- No ethnic conflict
- Cultural pluralism
- Tolerance towards different section of the society

**Family** is the first school where children start their initial learning. The role of teacher played mother and other members of family. Even in the formal school system, different roles like teacher, pupil and parents are members of society and always carry their cultural baggage and values of same society. The system of joint family for instance helps in inculcating values of togetherness, sharing, while nuclear family teaches independence and struggle.

**Religion** is also one universal institution that exists from primitive to post-modern society. However, sometimes its rigidity also becomes dysfunctional. One of the most important functions of religion is **social control**. Although all religions profess the values of peace, harmony, brotherhood etc., there have been instances of hatred, violence to achieve short-sighted goals.

**Economic institution** refers the rules, procedures and norms of production, distribution, consumption as well as working system and patterns. These influence the values of libertarianism, socialism, materialism etc.

The nature of **state, political parties**, its ideology and policy directs the nature of education system and its policy in society. Democratic states profess ideals of democratic rights and development whereas a dictator regime is filled with violence, fear, human rights violations etc.

### **Conclusion:**

Values constitute an important aspect of self-concept and serve as guiding principles for an individual. Man being a social animal is bound to be influenced by societal norms and in turn affect the societal values.

Bhagavat Gita advocates 'detachment' as an essential attribute for being successful in one's duty. Is this virtue still relevant in today's public administration? Discuss using suitable example and give your opinion.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question aims to evaluate the virtue of detachment and in what way it impacts the duty aspect of an individual.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the virtue of detachment and in what way it is applicable to public administration.*

### **Directive:**

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

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Discuss what you understand by 'detachment' in the context of the question.*

#### **Body:**

*Bhagavad Gita is one of the earliest texts in any tradition to emphasize that it is important not just to do one's duty, but to do it in a certain kind of way; detachment.*

*Explain the importance of Detachment in general and how it applies to public services – it boosts a public servant capability to stay away from unintended emotions and ensures that emotions are invested wisely. It is important to uphold public Interest as our excessive attachment with postings, perk, privilege, power, and position leads to civil servants becoming pursuing self-interest rather than public interest, self-serving rather than serving the people etc.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reasserting significance of the same.*

#### **Introduction:**

Nishkam Karma is a central theme in the Bhagavad Gita. In Sanskrit, nishkam means "action without motive," "work without desire" or "desire-less." Detachment in public administration refers to act unselfishly, or without personal gain in mind. When acting out of detachment, an individual is acting without any expectation that good will be returned to him/her.

#### **Body:**

Work is the central and defining characteristic of life. Attachment to the result of work may lead to stress, competition and aggression that in turn may lead to fatal medical and psychological conditions. The understanding of KarmaYoga and its practice would lead an individual to work with **intrinsic values rather than with instrumental values**

#### **Relevance in today's public administration:**

- In today's commoditised world, everything is target oriented. All actions are leading towards the fruit of action. So it is nearly impossible to be detached with the results.
- In the quest of achieving short-term gains, administrators are performing their duties "either by hook or by crook".
- Competition springs from comparisons and in today's comparative milieu, the work done is mostly to be better than others. This culture is seen in bureaucracy too albeit for their personal gains.
- High incidences of corruption, nepotism, favouritism for personal gains have been the way of public administration in most Weberian bureaucracies across globe.

#### **The principle of detachment helps by:**

- Detachment promotes citizen-centricity in public administration by making public servants accountable, transparent & responsive to peoples' needs.
- Helps to uphold constitution & the laws in both letter as well as spirit.

- The lack of courage will help public servant to consider his duties sacrosanct & promote public good.
- It eliminates conflict of interest by reducing the intermingling of public and private life.

### **Conclusion:**

There should be a sense of duty or obligation towards others and an absence of desire for personal rewards. Public administrators must follow the principle of “**Work is worship**” as enunciated by social reformer of 12<sup>th</sup> century, Basavanna.

In the context of Artificial intelligence, it is essential that technology should be evaluated both on the basis of its utility and the intention of its creator. Comment.(250 words)

The hindu

**Why this question:**

*The article emphasizes on the need for A technology to be evaluated both on the basis of its utility and the intention of its creator.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in depth the need for understanding and discussing the ethical basis of AI and in what way it is important for India.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Explain the need for ethics in using technology.*

**Body:**

*The body of the answer should explain that multiple ethical perspectives are involved in development and application of a technology and it becomes essential for any technology like that of artificial intelligence to inculcate ethic on the basis of its utility and the intention of its creator.*

*Illustrate using suitable case studies/examples.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with way forward.*

**Introduction:**

“The greatest enemy of knowledge is not ignorance, it is the illusion of knowledge” was what Stephen Hawking said. Artificial Intelligence is one such booming field which is gaining huge demand yet not many comprehend its ethical fallout.

**Body:**

AI is being widely used today as shown below

- AI powered bots have also been used to influence humans perceptions, views and opinions. Such activities are rampantly being promoted through social media platforms for various ulterior purposes using fake news, unethical advertisements, etc which then have huge negative consequences.

- AI based weapons are fast gaining currency. Since humans can be replaced by such machines, declaring war would become more convenient. These machines can wreck havoc if uncontrolled endangering the human race itself.
- AI is being used for extensive surveillance as in China which violates right to privacy. Such intelligence can be even used to selectively target and eliminate opponents which instil deep fear among people who would like to raise voice against injustice.
- Humans can pass on their limitations to robots. E.g.: biases, prejudices, discrimination, etc. A recent report in USA revealed that robot can be racist.

#### **Importance of evaluation of AI technology:**

- With the proliferation of AI, it is important for us to know the ethical basis of every AI system that we use or is used on us.
- An ethical basis resting on both teleological and deontological perspectives gives us more faith in a system.
- Sometimes, even an inclusive intention may need careful scrutiny.
- Ethical norms regarding uses of AI and our ability to regulate them in an intelligent and beneficial manner should keep pace with the fast changing technological capabilities.
- Understanding and discussing the ethical basis of AI is important for India.

#### **Conclusion:**

The transformative capability of AI in India is huge, and must be rooted in an egalitarian ethical basis. Any institutional framework for AI should have a multidisciplinary and multi-stakeholder approach, and have an explicit focus on the ethical basis.

**Human Values – lessons from the lives and teachings of great leaders, reformers and administrators; role of family, society and educational institutions in inculcating values.**

**Is it always right to tell the truth, even if it hurts or destroys someone else? What matters more, the life of an individual or the majesty of the moral law? Explain. (250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Reference**

#### **Why this question:**

*The question aims to analyse the aspect of being truthful under varying circumstances.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Discussion should analyse in what way being truthful and upholding the moral of being honest is difficult in certain situations and what is right whether to be truthful even in situations where the truth may hurt the individuals or the situation.*

#### **Directive:**



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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

Define the value of truthfulness.

**Body:**

One has to justify both the sides – if a lie preserves someone's feelings, or protects someone from harm, it is the right thing to do. It is morally acceptable to lie when a falsehood protects someone from physical or emotional harm. Moreover, little white lies are socially accepted when they do no harm. For instance, telling a child that their drawing is nice or that their story is clever, is an example of this.

On the other hand, also explain If we do things that require justification, we are already doing something we aren't supposed to be doing. Making excuses may sooth our logical mind temporarily, but it doesn't do anything for the internal conflict that is created. When we deliberately do something that violates our core ethics, it sets in motion a destructive emotional conflict. The end result will be the slow erosion of our core values or the manifestation of some self-sabotaging behavior.

**Conclusion:**

Conclude with balanced opinion.

**Introduction:**

Being truthful means a strict adherence to a policy of honesty and openness. Although there are rare cases where dishonesty is not just acceptable but morally obligatory, the vast majority of our interactions with others demand conscientious honesty.

**Body:**

**Importance of being truthful:**

- Being truthful also means being **dependable and trustworthy**. To be virtuous, it is important not just that our words be truthful, but that our actions are truthful and consistent with what we have promised.
- As philosophers such as **Immanuel Kant** have written, **truthfulness is a prerequisite both for building a stable, lawful society and engaging in meaningful interaction with others**, so living up to one's words is important not only on an individual level but also on the level of the community.
- Deception by deliberate omission, though perhaps less immoral than outright lying, is still deception and should be forsworn.

**Lying is wrong:**

- Being false or lying is bad because a generally truthful world is a good thing: lying diminishes trust between human beings
- Lying is bad because it treats those who are lied to as a means to achieve the liar's purpose, rather than as a valuable end in themselves

- Lying is bad because it makes it difficult for the person being lied to make a free and informed decision about the matter concerned. Lies lead people to base their decisions on false information.

**However** sometimes people lie with good intentions, with the intention of sparing the feelings of others or preventing others from experiencing psychological harm. For instance people might tell their host that their meat loaf is delicious or tell a colleague that their work makes a valuable contribution.

It is morally acceptable to lie when a falsehood protects someone from physical or emotional harm. Moreover, **little white lies are socially accepted when they do no harm**. For instance, telling a child that their drawing is nice or that their story is clever, or telling new parents that their baby is the cutest ever are both examples of this.

#### **Conclusion:**

Lying to help another person was consistently perceived to be good, while lying that had no effect on the other person or that actually harmed them was perceived to be wrong. **It relates to the principle of consequentialism which professes a pursuit of noble ends without much concern for the means so employed.**

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

The political leader is also the primary moral leader of a society". Explain the reason for the above spectacle. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### Reference

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is set in the context analyzing the role of ethics in leadership.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain the significance of a political leader and in what way she/he is the primary moral leader of the society.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Define what you understand by a political leader.*

##### **Body:**

*Highlight the role of a political leader in a society, explain that he/she is the one who brings values to the surface in a society.*

*Explain that Leadership is one of the most observed and least understood phenomena on earth. Discuss other facets of leadership and justify the answer with suitable example.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reasserting the significance of the same.*

**Introduction:**

A political leader acts as an important link in establishing the cordial relation between the policies and its impact on society. The primary driver behind his action is based on the motive of framing rules and legislation in taking his state towards path of progress, in which ethical conduct of the leader is an essential requirement.

**Body:**

A political leader is primarily an individual of morality and unless and until he doesn't acquire this virtue the state prosperity and the belief of masses could not be achieved, whether in a monarch or democratic regime. Public life, governance, and legislation are concerned with the well-being of the citizens of a society.

The people we choose to represent us matter beyond the mere fact that we have someone representing us. In a representative democracy, a citizen's identity and desires are appropriated by a representative who tries to reconcile the disparate wishes of their constituents.

Morality is important for political leaders. For example, if president has weak morality for community, he can be far from people. Because it means he do not respect the other people who actually have rights to give opinion / thought that may be can support what president want to decide, and it will make all people are feel fair. However, if leader has high moral and ethical standards for the community, he will be more attend to the people, by listen and accept all their critic or advice, and also more concerned to problems or issues that can hamper to solving all problems and make peace.

**Political leaders are also need to be primary moral leaders because:**

- Millions across the world feel that the current globalised system is not working in their best interests.
- From unemployed workers to the small island states in the South Pacific whose livelihoods are threatened by climate change, people are angry that decisions taken by governments and in corporate boardrooms appear blithely indifferent to their daily struggles.
- In all countries, too much focus is placed on leaders assuming that they can make decisions unilaterally and that those decisions will be implemented. E.g.: In Russia, Putin is president of a country crippled by the fall of the Soviet Union and the nature of Russian society. He has promised prosperity and to return Russia to greatness. He is all-powerful so long as he focuses on those things.
- There are many politicians who will cynically exploit genuine grievances for their own ends.
- At the same time, all across the world we see rising levels of xenophobia and intolerance and a narrowing of political vision focused on parochial introspection.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, there is a need to reject cynical populists who offer scapegoats instead of real solutions, and calls on responsible politicians, civil society and business leaders to reassert our basic, common values of dignity for all.

## What do you understand by persuasion? Discuss the significant role played by it in public life.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question is based on the concept of persuasion.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the virtue of persuasion and the role it plays in public life.*

### **Directive:**

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

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*First define the concept of persuasion.*

#### **Body:**

*Persuasion is an umbrella term of influence. Persuasion can attempt to influence a person's beliefs, attitudes, intentions, motivations, or behaviors. Discuss the various associated theories of persuasion. Explain how these can be applied to different situations differently. Explain using a case study/example how persuasion can be put to use in public life, what importance does it hold.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude by asserting the significance of Persuasion as a key value in public life.*

#### **Introduction:**

Persuasion is symbolic process in which communicators try to convince other people through transmission of a message to change their attitudes or behaviours. Persuasion is the process of changing or reinforcing attitudes, beliefs or behaviour of a person.

#### **Body:**

People respond to persuasive messages in two ways: **thoughtfully and mindlessly**. When people are in thoughtful mode, the persuasiveness of the message is determined by merits of the message. When people respond to messages mindlessly, their brains are locked on automatic. Persuasion is mainly dependent upon the attractiveness of the speakers and reaction of the listeners. Persuasion is exclusively related with **communication, learning, awareness and thought**.

#### **Role in Public life:**

- **Effecting social change:** To deal with issues like girl child education, inter caste marriage, temple entry for women, persuasion may be the only solution because change has to be brought keep intact the dignity and respect of all stake holders. g.: The advertisements for polio drops for children are a form of persuasion

- **Public policy formulation and implementation:** Sometimes persuasion works better than coercion; success of the initiatives like Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan- cleanliness drives and Ujjwala give it up campaign can be attributed to persuasion.
- **Following rules:** It helps in making people follow rules which bring inconvenience to them, like District collector visiting houses in the morning to persuade people for waste segregation before disposal.
- **Moral conditioning:** Persuasion can bring change in attitude of people. In Delhi Metro various signboards on certain seats asks passengers to offer that seat to needy people. Similarly, regular announcements to keep the station clean persuade people to change their behaviour.
- **Incentivising good behaviour:** For instance in income declaration scheme a window was open to declare black money with some fine and no legal action that incentivized people instead of penalizing them.

### Conclusion:

Persuasion can bring a lasting change in people's behaviour and is highly effective in implementation of public policies provided the tools are used in a right way.

Explain the relationship between attitude and behaviour. Do you think training can change attitude of people towards weaker sections of the society? Discuss. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question aims to analyse the relationship between attitude and behaviour.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the relationship between attitude and behaviour. In what way training can change attitude of people towards weaker sections of the society.*

### **Directive:**

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

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Define what is attitude.*

#### **Body:**

*Explain what are the elements of attitude and behaviour, in what way the two are interrelated. attitude can be defined as what a person internalizes as its values and beliefs, what it carries to be disposed and what generally forms a character of a person. behavior finely abuts attitude. it's a sum total summary of a person's actions.*

*It can be called the visible form of attitude. or rather actions make the attitude visible in the form of person's behavior.*

*Discuss the role of training in redefining and shaping one's attitude.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with suitable examples and justify the importance of the two.*

#### **Introduction:**



Attitude refers to a set of emotions, beliefs, and behaviours toward a particular object, person, thing, or event. Attitudes are often the result of experience or upbringing, and they can have a powerful influence over behavior.

### **Body:**

Relationship between attitude and behaviour is very fine and subtle to understand. While Attitude is internal component of our cognition (thought process and perception system), behaviour is manifestation or exhibition of such attitude. We tend to assume that people behave according to their attitudes. However, social psychologists have found that attitudes and actual behavior are not always perfectly aligned.

For example if a person might have an attitude to help poor people, but his/her behaviour may not be in the direction.

Changing anything pre-eminent and settled attitude or behaviour, both, is difficult, as its human instinct. However change can be bought through self discovery or external inspiration. A complete change in attitude may be difficult but rigidness of attitude can be lowered by training. The scope of their thinking can be extended which can make them see the other side of coin. For this both theoretical and practical training is required. Training provides more inputs to the process which is helpful in shaping the attitude of a person.

Teachers, politicians and bureaucrats who are not very familiar with the conditions of poor can be trained to be more amiable and sensitive towards weaker sections. Their familiarity with the situations in which weaker section live can bring out a positive change in them. Change in their attitude will depend on the training provided to them. A Training which emphasise the nature of public service and expectation from public servant can be helpful. It is also in the interest of the country to change the attitude of public functionaries who determines the course of life of the masses, in a positive direction.

### **Conclusion:**

Thus, by training and persuading the people the attitude and behaviour can be changed in the right direction.

**It's not hard to make decisions when you know what your values are and what attitude one carries towards life. Do you agree? Substantiate.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### ***Why this question:***

*The question is based on the theme of values and attitudes.*

#### ***Key demand of the question:***

*The answer must discuss the significance of values and right attitude while making hard decisions in one's life.*

#### ***Structure of the answer:***

##### ***Introduction:***

*Define attitude and values.*

##### ***Body:***

*Explain in detail the role played by values and attitude in an individual's life and in what way they are key in defining behaviour of a person.*

*Discuss how they become relevant in decision making using suitable illustrations.*

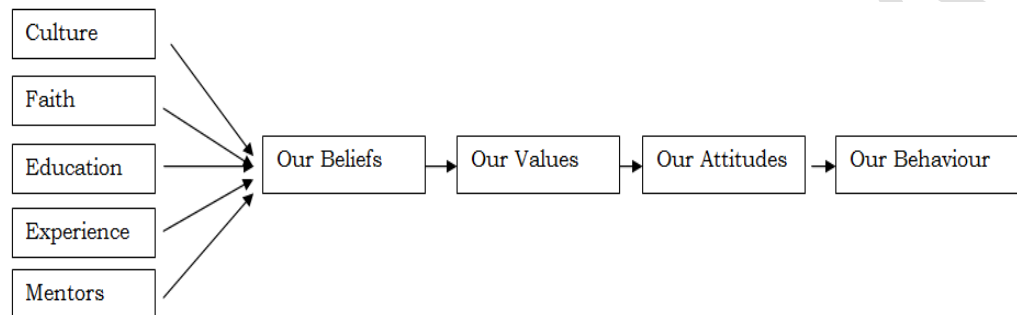
**Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reasserting significance of the values and attitude.*

**Introduction:**

Attitudes are views, beliefs, or evaluations of people about something (the attitude object). The attitude object can be a person, place, thing, ideology, or an event. Attitudes can be positive or negative. Values are **individual beliefs that motivate people to act one way or another. They serve as a guide for human behaviour.**

**Body:**



Attitudes are formed primarily based on underlying values and beliefs. Values and attitudes guide an individual to tread the path they strongly believe in. They direct our future feelings and thoughts about the objects of those feelings and thoughts. They are cognitive structures that guide perception and help us fill the gaps when information is lacking. They help control our intense emotions and serve an ego-defensive function when they protect us against our fears and anxieties.

Decision making is **usually eased in normal situations** with this as one can be clear about what to do and what not to do.

For e.g.: A compassionate person would help the flood affected persons to the extent he can without any second thoughts. An egalitarian person would oppose the indiscrimination meted out to the lower caste people.

However, the decision making becomes difficult **when there is an ethical dilemma** i.e. when there is a clash between two positive values.

For instance, an old destitute woman who has no personal identification records and is dying out of hunger, Is it ethical to prohibit her from getting the Government benefits or allow her despite lack of legal records.

**Conclusion:**

**Dalai Lama** says that “If you can cultivate the right attitude, your enemies are your best spiritual teachers because their presence provides you with the opportunity to enhance and develop tolerance,

patience and understanding.” Our values and attitude is what influences all our actions. It is only the right set of values and attitudes, which gets us good results.

What is the difference between social influence and persuasion? How do they influence individuals differently? Discuss.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

*The question is about comparing persuasion and social influence.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the difference between persuasion and social influence and how each of them impact individuals differently.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Define persuasion and social influence.*

**Body:**

*Explain what is the difference between social influence and persuasion – Influence is the ability to make someone do something through the use of one’s resources (wealth, social status, or power). “Having influence over someone or something” simply means through the means of your resources and how you distribute/ use them people will do your bidding because you have something of value to them.*

*Persuasion is the ability to make someone do something through the use of words to manipulate their thoughts, behavior, and actions. While, you need large amounts of resources to truly influence anyone or anything- anyone can have the ability to persuade. Persuasion in itself is a tool/ and or a resource to use towards a goal.*

*Quote examples to substantiate how the two elements can influence an individual in different ways.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with way forward.*

**Introduction:**

**Social influence** is the **change in behavior that one person causes in another, intentionally or unintentionally**. It occurs when a person’s emotions, opinions, or behaviours are affected by others. **Persuasion** is **symbolic process in which communicators try to convince other people through transmission of a message to change their attitudes or behaviours**.

**Body:**

**Social Influence:**

- Social influence takes many forms and can be seen in **conformity, socialization, peer pressure, obedience, leadership, persuasion, sales, and marketing**.
- As per **Herbert Kelman**, there are three broad types of social influence.
  - **Compliance** It is described as a particular kind of response, acquiescence to a particular kind of communication, a request. g.: Tax payment, following traffic rules

- **Conformity:** It refers to the act of changing a particular belief or behaviour to fit in with one's social environment. Main factor that influences conformity is social norms. E.g.: leaving footwear outside in religious places, banning of sati.
- **Obedience:** Person obeys direct orders from another to perform some actions. E.g.: Orders from Military officer to jawans.
- Effect of Social influence is especially visible in the long history of humankind, particularly World War II, where individuals were observed to commit immoral acts because they scuffle to act in sync with their personal judgments when faced with external pressure.

### **Persuasion:**

- Persuasion is one form of social influence on attitude; in fact it represents the intersection of social thinking and social influence of everyday life.
- Persuasion can occur through appeals to reason or appeals to emotion. For example, school-based substance abuse prevention programs using the social influences model consistently produce better results than programs emphasizing only health information.
- The government has also utilized this tool for the success of the initiatives like Swachh Bharat Abhiyan- cleanliness drives; Ujjwala Yojana's Give it up campaign; Disclosing excess income campaign; Beti Bachao Beti Padhao by making parents understand it is necessary to protect and educate a girl child.

### **Conclusion:**

Thus, Persuasion is one form of social influence on attitude; in fact it represents the intersection of social thinking and social influence of everyday life. Understanding these shortcuts and employing them in an ethical manner can significantly increase the chances that someone will be social influenced and persuaded by the public policy.

**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.**

**In the present-day socio-political context, why do you think integrity and impartiality must be considered as foundational values in public services? Illustrate.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

***Why this question:***

*The question is based on the concepts of Integrity and impartiality*

***Key demand of the question:***

*The question is straightforward and there is not much to deliberate. One must discuss the significance of the concepts.*

***Directive:***

**Illustrate** – A similar instruction to ‘explain’ whereby you are asked to show the workings of something, making use of definite examples and statistics if appropriate to add weight to your explanation.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

Define the virtues of Integrity and impartiality.

**Body:**

Explain the following aspects in your answer:

Detail upon the concepts of Integrity and impartiality.

Impartiality and Integrity imply acting solely according to the merits of the case and serving equally well the governments of different political persuasions. An impartial and politically neutral civil service is a defence against the spoils system which has the propensity to degenerate into a system of patronage, nepotism and corruption.

**Conclusion:**

Conclude by reasserting significance of such values in public administration.

**Introduction:**

Aptitude and foundational values for civil services like integrity, impartiality and non partisanship, objectivity are needed to bring the attitudinal and behavioural reforms in them.

**Body:**

**Integrity:** It is the **practice of synchronisation of thought, words and actions**. It can be correlated to honesty but unlike honesty it's more a professional value. It's related to institution. It advocates **sacrifice of personal gains in favour of organisational objectives**. In conflict between personal and organisational objectives organisation must be given importance. Financial integrity is important component. Civil servants are handling public assets they are the custodians of public money. Integrity ensures the economy of expenditure, reduction in unproductive expenditure, minimisation of corruption. Hence integrity is utmost required value.

Example: Not accepting praise or acclaim for someone else's work. That includes stealing someone's idea or pretending to have worked on a successful project.

When your senior asks you to do something against your personal code of conduct, refuse. If it means losing a good paying job, so be it. Find a more ethical option to use.

**Impartiality:** Impartiality (also called even handedness or fair-mindedness) is a **principle of justice holding that decisions should be based on objective criteria, rather than on the basis of bias, prejudice, or preferring the benefit to one person over another for improper reasons**. A civil servant should never show any kind of prejudices, biases, and preferences into their functioning. Impartiality lies at the heart of public service and is the core of the commitments of a public servant. A public servant must not act on the basis of nationality, race, religion, or political point of view. His / her service must be based on the principle of non-partisan.

Example: making decisions and providing advice on merit and without bias, caprice, favouritism or self-interest; implementing Government policies and programs equitably.

**Conclusion:**



Present day civil servants need to perform multiple functions of giving suggestions to political representatives, addressing public grievances, institutionalisation of the socio economic changes, delivering goods and services. Hence a value committed bureaucracy is need of hour.

What do you understand by objectivity? How can one inculcate objectivity? Discuss in relevance with the need of the same in public services.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

*The question is based on the theme of objectivity and its significance in public services.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the concept of objectivity and in what way one can apply the same to civil services.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Define objectivity.*

**Body:**

*Objectivity is the opposite of subjectivity. You must not make decision on your values, emotions. Policy based / rule-based decisions are examples of objective decision because they are made upon prescribed policy/rule.*

*Then move onto discuss why objectivity is crucial for public services.*

*Discuss in what way objectivity can be inculcated in an individual.*

*Explain the relevance of objectivity in public services.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with way forward.*

**Introduction:**

Objectivity is a central philosophical concept, related to reality and truth, which has been variously defined by sources. Generally, objectivity means the **state or quality of being true even outside of a subject's individual biases, interpretations, feelings, and imaginings**. A proposition is generally considered objectively true when its truth conditions are met without biases caused by feelings, ideas, and opinions (mind-independent).

**Body:**

**Inculcation of Objectivity:**

- **Critical thinking:** By thinking both pros and cons and then taking a decision.
- **Right to review decisions:** within judicial / administrative procedure, there should be mechanism for appellate board e.g. in taxation, land acquisition etc.
- **Right to be heard:** often officers don't hear the complaint or opinion of people properly and just do the things that are in their mind. Hence new schemes should have 'social audit / public hearing' components.

- **Information management:** if you don't have hardcore information /statistics, you can't take objective decisions. E.g. sustainable development goals (SDG) have 17 goals and 169 targets. Previously in Millennium development goals (MDG), we had 18 indicators, yet we lacked proper statistical databases to compare performance. Lack of data, prevents us from finding the faults and fixing them.
- **Transparency:**g. right to information act. Bureaucrat will think twice before taking subjective/discretionary decisions, fearing that he'll have to answer it if someone files an RTI

#### Relevance of Objectivity in Public Services:

- Objectivity will help civil servants to be **non partisan, impartial and more service oriented**.
- For example District collector in making appointments needs to give priority to merit rather than other factors like the caste or background of the caste.
- It also contributes in **rational merit based decision makings** in day to day work of them. Ex. Team work, solving emergency issues like riotous situation.
- Being objective ensures that work of civil servant becomes **fair, transparent and visionary above all narrow considerations of kinship, nepotism, favouritism**.
- It also plays a big role in **reducing menace of corruption** from the system.
- It is regarded as one of the foundational values for civil servant as she enjoys much discretionary powers, is in charge of public funds and has responsibility of welfare of lakhs of people especially from weaker section of society.
- Objectivity ensures the utmost use of these powers.

#### Conclusion:

In public life objectivity as a value must strive for in all interaction but at many times being objective become difficult. Fairness as a value closest to objectivity can be practiced which progressively leads to objectivity.

When you choose to do work in the public sector it is because you want to make an impact, and in such decisions, dedication plays a significant role. What factors decide dedication? and what is the impact of the same? Elucidate. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

*Question is based on the theme of dedication of public servants.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the concept of dedication, factors leading and consequences of it.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Define dedication as a value/virtue.*

**Body:**

*There are some professions in which individuals overly dedicate their lives, personal life, fun and comfort.*

*Discuss the factors that determine a civil servant's dedication to public service – benevolence, tolerance and Compassion towards weaker Section*

*caring altruism, Fearlessness and Courage, Spirit of Service and Sacrifice, A sense of Mission and Focus etc.*

*discuss the impact of dedication and positive effects of the same.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reiterating the significance of dedication.*

**Introduction:**

“Public service must be more than doing a job efficiently and honestly. It must be a complete dedication to the people and to the nation”- Margaret Chase. Dedication means **quality of involving oneself completely or applying one's attention, time to a particular activity, cause or a person.** It suggests **voluntary commitment rather than rigidity.**

**Body:**

**Importance of Dedication in public service:**

- Dedication in public service is required as civil servants in India, a developing country need to perform the regular administrative and also play an important role in socio-economic development of the nation.
- In carrying out these activities he may be faced with several obstructions like social opposition against any programme which is against their deep rooted belief, lack of support from political executive.
- Schemes for promoting family planning are generally opposed in rural as they consider contraceptives as taboos here dedication is required to fulfil the goal of healthy society. One's employees and superiors may be involved in corruption. These obstacles can only be overcome when one has perseverance and dedication.
- Public service is not a goal but journey which may be non-exciting and unwanted at times, only a dedicated civil servant can remain motivated in such situations.
- Dedication would make sense of duty an end in itself, which will be independent of assignment.

**Factors influencing dedication:**

- **Personal experiences of the public servants.**
- **Empathy of the public servant.**
- **Altruism**
- **Benevolence**
- **tolerance and Compassion towards weaker Section**

- **Fearlessness and Courage**
- **Spirit of Service and Sacrifice**
- **Institutionalisation:** This happens especially in case of Police and Army forces. Here a new recruit is so deeply institutionalised to deliver their duty through training/drills that it makes them ready for “Call of Duty”.

#### **Conclusion:**

**Bhagavad-Gita** expounds the concept of **Karamanye vadhikarste ma phalesu kadachana**. We should perform our duties diligently and piously, but without expectation of what the results will be.

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

Discuss the concept of emotional intelligence and suggest the various applications of emotional intelligence. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is straight forward and aims to discuss the concept of emotional intelligence and its application.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the concept and in what way it can be applied in an individual's life.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Define Emotional intelligence.*

##### **Body:**

*Explain the following points –*

*The term was coined by two researchers – Peter Salovey and John Mayer in 1990 but got popular in 1996 from Dan Goleman's book 'Emotional Intelligence: Why It Can Matter More Than IQ'.*

*Emotional intelligence refers to 'the ability to identify one's own emotions and those of others, harness and apply them to tasks, and to regulate and manage them'.*

*Emotional Quotient (EQ) is a measure of one's EI i.e. through a standardized test, one's awareness of emotions in relation to self and others is known.*

*Explain the applicability of EI in individual's life, in administration, civil services etc. using suitable examples.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude by suggesting what needs to be done to ensure EI and how to practice the same.*

##### **Introduction:**

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

### **Body:**

#### **Concept of EI:**

According to **Daniel Goleman**, an American psychologist who helped to popularize emotional intelligence, there are five key elements to it:

- **Self-awareness:**
  - The ability to recognize and understand personal moods and emotions and drives, as well as their effect on others.
  - Hallmarks of self-awareness include self-confidence, realistic self-assessment, and a self-deprecating sense of humour.
  - Emotional awareness: This deals with knowledge of one's emotions and their effects. People having this competency are more aware of their feelings and performance.
  - Accurate self-assessment: This involves being aware of one's strengths and weaknesses. One is open to feedbacks, new viewpoints, etc.
  - Self-confidence: This relates to complete affirmation of one's worth and abilities. They are usually more confident and are able to make sound decisions despite any uncertainties or pressures
- **Self-management:**
  - Ability to control or redirect disruptive impulses and moods, and the propensity to suspend judgment and to think before acting. Hallmarks include trustworthiness and integrity; comfort with ambiguity; and openness to change.
  - Adaptability: This involves flexible attitude towards change. People with this competency find it easy to handle changing routines, multiple roles and even shifting priorities.
  - Innovativeness: This involves getting easy with and open to new information and ideas. People who possess this are able to gather new ideas from multiple sources, set challenging roles and are able to take calculated risks. They evolve original solutions to various problems.
- **Social Awareness:**
  - The ability to understand the emotional makeup of other people. A skill in treating people according to their emotional reactions.

- Empathy does not necessarily imply compassion. Empathy can be 'used' for compassionate or cruel behaviour. Serial killers who marry and kill many partners in a row tend to have great empathic skills.
- **Relationship management:**
  - Proficiency in managing relationships and building networks, and an ability to find common ground and build rapport. Hallmarks of social skills include effectiveness in leading change, persuasiveness, and expertise building and leading teams.
- **Motivation:**
  - A passion to work for internal reasons that go beyond money and status -which are external rewards, – such as an inner vision of what is important in life, a joy in doing something, curiosity in learning, a flow that comes with being immersed in an activity.

#### Applications of EI:

- Emotional intelligence in administration can be used for the following ways:
  - Appraising emotions arising from situations.
  - Using emotions for reason based decisions and policy making.
  - Identifying emotions in faces, voices, postures, and other content during public management activities.
- **Recruitment:**
  - EQ measurement is invaluable in selecting and recruiting high performance workers.
- **Predicting performance:**
  - Some companies are blending IQ testing with scientific measurement of EQ to predict job performance and direct workers to jobs where they are most likely to succeed.
- **Negotiation:**
  - Whether you're dealing with a trading partner, competitor, customer or colleague, being able to empathize and be creative in finding win-win solutions will consistently pay off
- **Performance management:**
  - 360-degree feedback is a common tool for assessing EQ. Knowing how your self-perception compares with others' views about your performance provides focus for career development and positive behavioural changes
- **Peer relationships:**
  - Good networking skills are a staple of job effectiveness for the average worker.



- Networking has too often been associated with “using” other people, but a heightened EQ ensures a mutually beneficial approach to others.
- **Social responsibility:**
  - When a leader cares about others, he is not a centre of attention and keeps everyone in the loop by making their intentions known.
- **Stress tolerance:**
  - To stay focused, stress should be managed and it involves own reactions to stress or the reactions of others to the stress.
- **Impulse control:**
  - Independent people evaluate the alternatives and initiate the work by taking appropriate action by executing the right options.
  - People who manage their impulses avoid being distracted and losing control of the situation.
- **Optimism:**
  - Optimistic people have a target that they’re aiming toward. These people are confident in their ability to carry out the required actions and meet the target by looking for successful solutions to problems.

### **Conclusion:**

Good ethics reaffirm the emotional intelligence of a person.

High emotionally intelligent individuals are more adept at reasoning through the emotional antecedents of their own and others’ behavior and using this information to guide thinking and action. Individuals high on emotional intelligence will be able to manage their emotions and react less aggressively to the behaviours of others.

**Debate upon the significance of the concept of emotional intelligence in today’s Digital age of alienation. (250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### ***Why this question:***

*The question aims to evaluate the relevance of EI in the age of digital world.*

### ***Key demand of the question:***

*Explain in what way EI plays a vital role in the Digital age of alienation.*

### ***Directive:***

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

### ***Structure of the answer:***

### ***Introduction:***

*Briefly define what is emotional intelligence.*

**Body:**

*Emotional intelligence refers to ‘the ability to identify one’s own emotions and those of others, harness and apply them to tasks, and to regulate and manage them’. Emotional Quotient (EQ) is a measure of one’s EI i.e. through a standardized test, one’s awareness of emotions in relation to self and others is known.*

*Discuss the impact of digitalness in today’s world – digital alienation refers to manifestations of alienation online.*

*Explain using day to day examples, suggest in what way EI plays a key role in managing emotions in a difficult world alienated by technology, social media etc.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reasserting significance of EI.*

**Introduction:**

**Daniel Goleman** defines it in his book, emotional intelligence is the ability to monitor our own and other people’s emotions, to distinguish between different emotions and label them appropriately, and to use this information to guide our thinking and behavior.

**Body:**

In today’s day and age, it’s fair to say that we’re being overtaken by technology. In this new and improved digital age, the world is focused on productivity, and banging out as much as possible in little time. This can often be overwhelming for the average human being, with many of us wondering what the point is behind all of this technology and advancement.

**Digital age and Alienation:**

- In the digital age, there’s flood of information, indoor-lifestyle, people are losing direct touch with each other, relations have become calculative and materialistic.
- For instance, a smart machine might be able to diagnose an illness and even recommend treatment better than a doctor. It takes a person, however, to sit with a patient, understand their life situation (finances, family, quality of life, etc.), and help determine what treatment plan is optimal. This is where emotional intelligence would help.
- Whereas a farmer knows the purpose of rice he cultivates- that people will eat it and feel happy. Farmer is directly contributing to someone’s life.
- Similarly, in IT company, you’re writing a script-code that will become part of some big system, yet you don’t know what exact purpose you’ve served.
- Such person has no idea what is the purpose of his life and what is his contribution to the society? He gets alienated from work, alienated from society. He’ll begin to see other people in “profit-loss” calculation.
- In the end he’ll get alienated from himself and this will cause all the emotional/mental disorders.

**Importance of EI in digital age:**

- Skills like persuasion, social understanding, and empathy are going to become differentiators as artificial intelligence and machine learning take over our other tasks.
- If we are going to empower machines, algorithms, and software to do more of the work that humans used to perform, we have to imbue them with some of the empathy and limitations that people have.
- For example Chatbots are becoming good at mimicking our language. But until they can detect our emotional state and respond accordingly, they might never reach their full potential.
- If a human being feels like they have purpose in life and are being fulfilled, they are more likely to be happy. This means employers need to ensure that their workers are feeling fulfilled and feel like they are contributing to themselves and society to achieve the greatest results.
- **Social robotics** is an area where social and emotional intelligence skills are key.
- Building AI systems that have empathy with clear ethical guidelines is critical to the decision-making logic of these AI systems. Emotional intelligence is a key part of that.
- If humans with this emotional intelligence can work happily alongside these machines, the company will benefit even more than if the person did not feel fulfilled.

### **Conclusion:**

In a world order led by super intelligence, emotional intelligence will be the only arrow in the human quiver to rein in super intelligence. In the digital age, emotional intelligence is a necessary requirement in order to properly adapt to the complex and multigenerational business environment.

The EI of the leader plays important role in effectiveness of social interactions with others individuals. In the backdrop of the statement discuss the significance of EI in a leader.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question is about discussing the relevance of emotional intelligence in the life of a leader.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the role of EI in leadership.*

### **Directive:**

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

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Define emotional intelligence.*

#### **Body:**

*A big part of being a leader involves being credible, honest or trustworthy and for the leader to maintain such virtues it is essential to have high emotional intelligence.*

*State the qualities that a leader must possess and how effective emotional intelligence helps leader to exercise his responsibilities better.*

### ***Conclusion:***

*Conclude by reasserting significance of EI.*

### **Introduction:**

Emotional intelligence or EI is the ability to understand and manage your own emotions, and those of the people around you. People with a high degree of emotional intelligence know what they're feeling, what their emotions mean, and how these emotions can affect other people.

### **Body:**

#### **Significance of EI in a leader:**

- Leaders who are emotionally intelligent foster safe environments, where employees feel comfortable to take calculated risks, suggest ideas and to voice their opinions.
- In such safe environments, working collaboratively isn't just an objective, but it gets woven into the organisational culture as whole.
- When a leader is emotionally intelligent, they can use emotions to **drive the organisation forward**.
- Leaders often have the responsibility of effecting any necessary changes in the organisation, and if they are aware of others' possible emotional reactions to these changes they are able to plan and prepare the most optimal ways to make them.
- Furthermore, emotionally intelligent leaders don't take things personally and are able to forge ahead with plans without worrying about the impact on their egos.
- Personal vendettas between leaders and employees are one of the commonest hindrances to productivity in many workplaces.
- A self-aware leader maintains a **clear picture of their strengths and weaknesses**, and despite their position of authority and power still operates from a mindset of humility.
- It calls for you to keep control of your emotions and how they affect others as well as stay committed to personal accountability.
- Self-motivated leaders **work consistently toward their goals**, motivate their employees and they have extremely high standards for the quality of their work.
- They develop a **healthy emotional connection** to the results they seek from their efforts, harnessing them to drive them forward without being obsessive.
- Leaders with empathy actively support the career and personal growth of their team members, offer criticism without crushing the recipient, and solicit regular feedback from their employees.

### **Conclusion:**

All the great leaders know there is a lot power in their emotions so they make sure to learn how to identify, understand and manage them, and also go ahead to teach those they lead how to do the same.

This is referred to as having emotional intelligence and is one of the most important traits for any leader in any modern day organisation to have.

“Anybody can become angry, that is easy; but to be angry with the right person, and to the right degree, and at the right time, and for the right purpose, and in the right way, that is not within everybody’s power, that is not easy.” —Aristotle. Evaluate the statement in the context of the concept of emotional intelligence. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

*The statement is in the context of significance that emotional intelligence holds in the life of an individual.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the significance of emotional intelligence and its application aspects in all spheres of life.*

**Directive:**

**Evaluate** – When you are asked to evaluate, you have to pass a sound judgement about the truth of the given statement in the question or the topic based on evidences. You have to appraise the worth of the statement in question. There is scope for forming a personal opinion here.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Briefly define the concept of emotional intelligence.*

**Body:**

*Explain that Emotional Intelligence is the summative of abilities, competencies and skills that signify a collection of knowledge in order to cope with life effectively. Therefore, it is closely related to the personal and professional growth of the individuals who have to take decisions under stressful and difficult situations.*

*One has to open up the statement quoted by Aristotle and use suitable illustrations to justify their answers.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of handling emotions.*

**Introduction:**

The above quote is about anger, and how easy it is to get wrong. So wrote **Aristotle**, more than 2000 years ago, in his classic work **The Art of Rhetoric**. His words don’t quite square with our modern concept of anger. Anger is an extremely powerful emotion. If you display it constantly, others will avoid you like the plague.

**Body:**

Emotional intelligence (EQ), or the ability to recognize and understand emotions, and then use that information to guide decision making, is extremely useful in helping you to deal with anger effectively. Recognizing that you need to choose your battles helps you from becoming overly anxious and possibly burning out.

For example, a situation may cause you to become angry because you don’t fully understand it. You might witness an action and perceive it to be an injustice, but every situation has context and

background, much of which you aren't privy to. Keeping that point in mind will keep you from butting into situations that really don't involve you

The truth is, there are plenty of instances when you're right to get angry. For example, let's say a certain colleague of yours really gets on your nerves. You know the type—always leaving unwashed dishes in the sink, constantly complaining, often disrespectful. You've endured this behavior for a while, and one day you're moved to do something about it.

Anger is like fire. It can be a useful tool, or it can be hideously destructive. In contrast, if you take time to think your actions and their consequences through, your strategy will be much more effective. Of course, in the heat of the moment, you won't always be inspired to sit back and reflect on the situation. That's why it's important to learn to keep control.

### **Conclusion:**

All of us will get angry from time to time. But using these strategies will help you to increase your EQ, control your anger, and express your feelings in a way that is more beneficial—to you, and to others.

## **Contributions of moral thinkers and philosophers from India and world.**

Swami Vivekananda was a proponent of a multicultural nation rooted in religious tolerance and modernity. Comment.(250 words)

The hindu

**Why this question:**

*The article debates in detail upon the applicability of sarva dharma sama bhava philosophy and the significant role played by Swami Vivekananda.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail in what way swami Vivekananda was a proponent of a multicultural nation rooted in religious tolerance and modernity.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Brief about Swami Vivekananda.*

**Body:**

*Explain that one of the key elements of his message, based on the experiments of his spiritual mentor Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, was that all religions lead to the same goal. Paramahansa is unique in the annals of mysticism as one whose spiritual practices reflect the belief that the ideas of personal god and that of an impersonal god as well as spiritual practices in Christianity and in Islam all lead to the same realization.*

*While in Chicago, Vivekananda stressed three important and novel facets of Hindu life. First, he said that Indian tradition believed “not only in toleration” but in acceptance of “all religions as true”. Second, he stressed in no uncertain terms that Hinduism was incomplete without Buddhism, and vice versa.*

**Conclusion:**



*Conclude by reasserting significance of his contributions.*

**Introduction:**

Swami Vivekananda is the greatest youth icon produced by India and one that influenced millions of youth across the world. According to him, religion plays a central role in this man-making, stating “to preach unto mankind their divinity, and how to make it manifest in every movement of life”.

**Body:**

**Religious tolerance:**

- Swami Vivekananda reminded us that the essence of religion is God-consciousness. When that is forgotten, religious differences begin—and not before.
- The oneness of existence and harmony of religions are cardinal principles of Hinduism.
- The Indian Order stands as an example of unity, tolerance, and diversity.
- Indians must live together, dedicating their lives to the service of all humanity.
- We must follow educate people to develop spirituality by seeing God in the hearts of all beings, irrespective of caste, creed, and culture.
- Sectarianism, bigotry, and its horrible descendant, fanaticism, have long possessed this beautiful earth. They have filled the earth with violence, drenched it often and often with human blood, destroyed civilization, and sent whole nations to despair. Had it not been for these horrible demons, human society would be far more advanced than it is now.
- Swami Vivekananda’s call for unity and love and tolerance is the voice of the prophets, saints, and seers of all traditions.

**Modernity:**

- Even though the Swami rejected political praxis and West inspired social and religious reforms, his essential message was the empowerment of the people.
- This empowerment should be through education, collective thought and action but above all, realizing the underlying unity of all human existence.
- He also realized that lack of education—secular and spiritual—is the root cause of all weakness and misery of the Indian masses. Knowing that education was the one factor that would lift people up, he spoke of universal and free education.
- He emphasised that India needed to trade Indian spirituality for the West’s material and modern culture and was firmly behind India’s scientific modernisation.
- He supported Jagadish Chandra Bose’s scientific projects. In fact, Vivekananda’s American disciple Sara Bull helped patent Bose’s discoveries in the U.S.
- Vivekananda also inspired Jamsetji Tata to establish the Indian Institute of Science and the Tata Iron and Steel Company.

- India needed a secular monastery from where scientific and technological development would uplift India's material conditions, for which his ideals provided a source of inspiration.

### **Conclusion:**

At this hour of human history the message of Swami Vivekananda promoting spiritual integration of the nation and world on the basis of universal brotherhood and goodwill becomes all the more relevant. It has the potential to avert wars ensuring peaceful co-existence of individuals and nations. The need of the hour is to combine the best elements of tradition with the scientific temper of the age.

**Mahatma Gandhi's principle of truth and non-violence emphasizes the use of reform of heart rather than use of violence. In this context discuss the various Gandhian methods and their relevance in modern times.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question aims to evaluate the relevance of Gandhian principles of truth and non-violence.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain with suitable examples the relevance of Gandhian philosophy in modern days.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Highlight the importance of Gandhian philosophy.*

##### **Body:**

*Gandhiji's principle of truth and non-violence emphasizes the use of reform of heart rather than use of violence. One must explain and justify the relevance of the philosophy using an example/case study. Students must discuss the nature of different forms of violence and factors leading to it. In addition, bring out the relevance of Gandhian principles of truth, Satyagraha, non-violence, proper educational system and religious tolerance, and argue that these principles can be applied in the contemporary situation for reduction of conflict and violence by advancing the welfare of the deprived, protection of environment, promoting peace and understanding among peoples.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude that these principles have a universal validity and have been successfully adopted by several countries and peoples.*

##### **Introduction:**

Satyagraha is the method of non-violent action in search and adherence to 'truth'. Gandhi proposed a civilized way of opposing rigid and unjust practices of the aggressor and to seek truth, a process which seeks change not through coercion or aggression but through a 'change of heart'. Gandhiji's principle of truth and non-violence or Satyagraha have become more relevant not just in India, but elsewhere too where people have been suppressed or injustice has been institutionalized.

##### **Body:**

The 21st Century has evolved more as a materialistic and pompous world filled with greed, malice and hatred where spiritual and moral values are losing steam.

Mahatma Gandhi and his values have become more relevant for today's society which is under turmoil and suffering from social evils, corruption, terrorism and violence. If we look around us, the world is full of various types of conflict, mainly arising out of the lack of the above virtues among people, more so in our leaders.

#### **Truth and Non-Violence:**

- Non-violence and Satyagraha should be turned into a global instrument of non-violent dissent against authoritarianism and a pragmatic tool of the powerless against the powerful.
- Suppression of ethnic minorities in countries like China etc must be countered through an international non-violent agitation.
- The nuclear race which is based on deterrence needs a more euphemistic approach based on sympathetic understanding for one's adversary, formulation of minimal demands consistent with truth, refusal to threaten or intimidate the enemy etc.
- The failure of US' strategy of aggression followed in Afghanistan, since 2001, to achieve peace and resumption of peaceful dialogue with Taliban is a clear example of the viability of non-violent Satyagraha.

#### **Sarvodaya:**

- Sarvodaya implies the rise and well-being of all.
- India needs universal upliftment for all without discrimination considering rampant unemployment and illiteracy.
- Development should not just include the most vulnerable but it should start from them, thus moving away from the 'trickle down theory'.

#### **Trusteeship:**

- Trusteeship is the means to promote equal distribution of wealth in the society and assures the generation and intelligent use of wealth.
- The differences between labour and capitalists can be addressed through trusteeship model, where labour, who otherwise feel utterly helpless, should hold their labour in trust for those who are in need of it i.e. capitalists and shed their distrust for the capitalists.

#### **Cooperation and Harmony:**

- To Gandhi, cooperation and harmony rather than conflict and struggle constitute the fundamental law of the universe. Conflicts occur more as temporary irregularities in the even and ordered flow of life.
- Conflict resolution is not absence of conflict but moving towards a better readjustment where energies of opponents are harnessed to achieve a higher goal.

- Ethnic conflicts and communal conflicts in India can be attended to using Gandhian concept of peaceful negotiations, persuasion through reason and self-suffering.

#### **Co-operativisation:**

- Gandhi emphasized the cooperative efforts in the field of agriculture small scale and cottage industries and in other fields of national interest.
- In agriculture, the small and fragmented holdings of land could be cooperatively cultivated to increase the production and minimize the cost.
- The small scale and cottage industries too would enjoy all advantages of large scale productions through cooperativisation.

#### **Conclusion:**

Gandhi's ideology is relevant because it is positive, constructive and practical. Today throughout the world people are shifting to nonviolent resistance in order to fight against any kind of evil, be it corruption, social, economic and political injustice etc.

*"I count him braver who overcomes his desires than him who overcomes his enemies." – Aristotle. Critically analyse the relevance and significance of the statement.(250 words)*

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is based on the statement made by Aristotle.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the meaning of the statement and importance of it.*

#### **Directive:**

**Critically analyze** – When asked to analyse, you have to examine methodically the structure or nature of the topic by separating it into component parts and present them as a whole in a summary. When 'critically' is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgement.

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*In brief explain the significance of Aristotle to the field of ethics.*

##### **Body:**

*Aristotle, through this statement, argues that it is easy to confront and overcome one's enemy. But it is much difficult to confront the desires. Confronting an enemy is a compulsion for an individual. However, to confront one's desires is a much difficult task, as it involves resisting the urges of the materialistic pleasures. Aristotle rightly argues that the one who overcomes his desires is much braver than the one who overcomes his enemies.*

*Only a person of high morality and character can resist the temptations of crude desires. The present society faces an acute form of this problem. Even highly qualified people fail to resist the temptations of material gains and pleasures. This becomes a sign of their moral weakness.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Thus, what is required is to train the people to resist their material urges. The biggest challenge for an individual is to confront his own desires and interests than to face his adversary.*

##### **Introduction:**

Desires are as much part of man as any other essential requirement. It is the desire of man that made him explore so many paths and rule the world. But the uncontrolled desires make man a slave of these desires and make him do things which may not be considered as moral.

**Body:**

The above statement reflects that the root causes of negative external manifestations of acts or thoughts of humans are his endless desires. There is no end to desires, and one desire leads to other. Thus, while an external enemy is finite and can be defeated, the real challenge is in defeating our internal enemy of desires which is endless and infinite.

Aristotle, through this statement, argues that it is easy to confront and overcome one's enemy. But it is much difficult to confront the desires. Confronting an enemy is a compulsion for an individual. However, to confront one's desires is a much difficult task, as it involves resisting the urges of the materialistic pleasures. Aristotle rightly argues that the one who overcomes his desires is much braver than the one who overcomes his enemies.

Only a person of high morality and character can resist the temptations of crude desires. The present society faces an acute form of this problem. Even highly qualified people fail to resist the temptations of material gains and pleasures. This becomes a sign of their moral weakness.

Public administrators are the guardians of public interest. However, as of today they have come to be characterized by self-aggrandizement, self-promotion, self-interest etc, a manifestation of inability to control internal desires. This had led to corruption, crony capitalism, nepotism and favouritism in public affairs. Self interest has replaced public interest. Thus, the need of the hour is to promote the principles of self-control among public administrators. It must be remembered that administrators are not only public servants but also expected to be model citizens. A self-controlled public administrator will not only lead to an efficient, public-oriented administration but also sustainable society.

**Conclusion:**

Thus, what is required is to train the people to resist their material urges. The biggest challenge for an individual is to confront his own desires and interests, than to face his adversary

Liberation means complete cessation of suffering, different systems of Indian philosophy have given different views about the nature of liberation, but all agree in the point that liberation signifies an end to miseries of life. Explain with suitable examples.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

***Why this question:***

*The question is based on the concept of liberation as propounded by the philosophical system of India.*

***Key demand of the question:***

*Explain in detail in what way liberation is about ending miseries of life.*

***Directive:***

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

***Structure of the answer:***

**Introduction:**

*Explain what you understand by liberation.*

**Body:**

*Explain that Systems of Indian philosophy, barring the Câr vãka, take liberation or freedom from bondage to be the goal of human life. Liberation means complete cessation of suffering. Different systems of Indian philosophy have given different views about the nature of liberation, but all agree in the point that liberation signifies an end to miseries of life. Indian philosophers recognize four ends (purusartha) of human life; they are—dharma (merit), artha (money), kâma (desire) and moka (liberation). Of these four, liberation is regarded as the highest and ultimate goal of man's life. Different systems prescribe different paths for attainment of liberation, such as paths of knowledge (jñâna), devotion (bhakti) and action (karma).*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reasserting significance of the Indian philosophies.*

**Introduction:**

The concept of liberation presupposes someone's state of bondage and anticipates the possibility of his or her release into a state of freedom. It is perhaps the biggest idea in man's quest of happiness.

**Body:**

In Hindu traditions, moksha is a central concept and included as one of the four aspects and goals of human life; the other three goals are dharma (virtuous, proper, moral life), artha (material prosperity, income security, means of life), and Kama (pleasure, sensuality, emotional fulfillment). Together, these four aims of life are called Puruṣartha in Hinduism.

**Various views about Liberation:**

- To some liberation or moksha means cessation of births & rebirths & the soul of man obtains to knowledge (Jnana) & the darkness dispels.
- To Ramanuj Vishishtadvait, Moksha means fellowship with God (snigdhta, vaikuntha).
- In Jainism by tap spirit become light it is complete solitude (kaivalya).
- In Buddhism moksha means going out of existence as the lamp blow soul (Nirvana).
- In yoga darshan, it is defined as samadhi.
- According to Shankaracharya, it is man falling back to the universal soul, merger, the loss of Identity & Egoism.
- Sankhya also like Jain believes in the theory of Kaivalya, the only difference is the Purush is real.
- In Bhagavat Gita, we are told that there are three paths that leads to Moksha the path of knowledge (jnanyo g), the path of nishkaam karma & the path of grace (Bhaktiyog).

The important point

of agreement among the various schools of Indian philosophy is the recognition of liberation or release (Moksha) from the cycle of rebirths as the highest of human ends or values.



Each Indian philosophy prescribed a lifestyle through which one can explore one's inner experience to liberate or emancipate himself and considers the liberation or emancipation as the highest goal of life. It's a state of **selfless love, service to others, purification, and self-control**.

### **Conclusion:**

It is also true that the Indian Philosophical theories regarding liberation have tried to develop some techniques to solve the problems of human life, and to solve the problems it has provided practices. This practical approach which is based on its own philosophy towards life and reality makes the Indian philosophical theories ethical.

Discuss the concept of virtue ethics from the perspectives of its propounders – Plato, Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question is straightforward and is about discussing the concept of virtue ethics.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the concept of virtue ethics as propounded by Plato, Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas.*

### **Directive:**

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

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Define what you understand by virtue ethics.*

#### **Body:**

*Explain in detail the concept of virtue ethics as stated by Plato, Aristotle and Thomas Aquinas.*

*Virtue ethics is a broad term for theories that emphasize the role of character and virtue in moral philosophy rather than either doing one's duty or acting in order to bring about good consequences.*

*In Plato's Republic, the four cardinal virtues are wisdom, temperance, courage and justice. These reflect the nature of the soul. The soul has three parts. Our reason thinks; when it does this well, it has wisdom. Aristotle defines virtue as the average, or 'mean,' between excess and deficiency. While for Aquinas, the body is not the prison of the soul, but a means for its expression. Aquinas's ethical theory involves both principles – rules about how to act – and virtues – personality traits which are taken to be good or moral to have. The relative importance of the two aspects is debated.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of virtue ethics.*

#### **Introduction:**

Virtue Ethics (or Virtue Theory) are normative ethical theories which emphasize virtues of mind, character and sense of honesty. It is an approach to Ethics that emphasizes an individual's character as the key element of ethical thinking, rather than rules about the acts themselves (Deontology) or their consequences (Consequentialism). For example it is virtuous to be courageous when faced with physical confrontation.

#### **Body:**

A virtue is generally agreed to be a character trait, such as a habitual action or settled sentiment. Specifically, a virtue is a positive trait that makes its possessor a good human being.

**Plato** maintains a **virtue-based eudaemonistic conception of ethics**. That is to say, **happiness or well-being** (eudaimonia) is the highest aim of moral thought and conduct, and the virtues meaning 'excellence' are the requisite skills and dispositions needed to attain it. Plato said that good men had to be those who were just, temperate, courageous and wise. He was speaking of moral excellence in a somewhat similar way than that of Socrates. In his work, **The Republic**, he presents all these characteristics. The relation he gives between State, citizens and moral excellence; he says that for a State to be good, it has to allow, help and even encourage people to be good as individuals; that good citizens were those who were good as persons and thus useful to the nation; and that moral excellence, or Virtue, is the basis of every sound society and the only way to have great men lead other great men properly.

Standard interpretations of **Aristotle's Nichomachean Ethics** usually maintain that Aristotle (384-322 B.C.E.) emphasizes the role of habit in conduct. It is commonly thought that **virtues**, according to Aristotle, **are habits and that the good life is a life of mindless routine**. For Aristotle, moral virtue is the only practical road to effective action. What the person of good character loves with right desire and thinks of as an end with right reason must first be perceived as beautiful. Hence, the virtuous person sees truly and judges rightly, since beautiful things appear as they truly are only to a person of good character. It is only in the middle ground between habits of acting and principles of action that the soul can allow right desire and right reason to make their appearance, as the direct and natural response of a free human being to the sight of the beautiful.

**Thomas Aquinas's** ethical theory involves both principles – rules about how to act – and virtues – personality traits which are taken to be good or moral to have. The relative importance of the two aspects is debated. Aquinas believes people need to identify meaningful goals before they can act. As such, moral theory is a way to facilitate action, rather than to limit it. According to Aquinas, good should be done or pursued, and evil (or badness) avoided. Without this principle, other moral rules would have no force. The maxim "do unto others as you would have them do unto you" is also quite fundamental

### **Conclusion:**

Virtue ethics helps us understand what it means to be a virtuous human being. And, it gives us a guide for living life without giving us specific rules for resolving ethical dilemmas.

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.

High ethical standards in the civil services are often desired, analyse the significance of having high ethical standards in current bureaucratic structure of the country. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

*The question aims to discuss and evaluate the need for high ethical standards in the Indian bureaucratic system.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*Explain how and why High ethical standards are necessary for civil services.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Briefly state the importance of ethics in general.*

**Body:**

*Explain how set of values are desirable in civil servants so as to ensure they have an ethical conduct being professed. Explain the reasons that necessitate the high ethical standards in civil services, quote case studies or examples of ethically upright, morally sound civil servants to justify better.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude that civil servants are ultimately responsible and accountable for the varied and multitude of services they provide. so to ensure assurance and in the best interests of society, they have to take care that high ethical standards are being met.*

**Introduction:**

Public want common ethical standards to apply to all providers of public services and that public and stakeholder views are broadly in line with the Seven Principles of Public Life – Selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty, leadership.

**Body:**

High ethical standards are important for society as a whole and that they are particularly important where public money is being spent on public services or public functions. This is because:

- Outcomes for society are better when the decisions of public office holders are made fairly and on merit and not influenced by personal and private interests
- Low levels of corruption and confidence in the integrity of the trading and operating environment are crucial factors in the functioning of advanced democracies

- High standards benefit the economy through their effect on international confidence
- Impartiality and objectivity increases predictability, which improves economic efficiency
- Governments which are not perceived to uphold high standards have less legitimacy and basic public institutions such as tax and benefit systems rely on public trust to function effectively
- High ethical standards are a necessary component of managing public money and fundamental to the right use of public funds and delivery of services to the public.

Conclusion:

It is therefore incumbent on the bodies commissioning or procuring public services, which are ultimately responsible and accountable for those services, to obtain assurance that high ethical standards are being met.

Discuss the role and significance of independent directors for corporate governance.(250 words)

Economictimes

*Why this question:*

*The question is in the context of corporate governance.*

*Key demand of the question:*

*Explain what is the role of an independent director in the corporate governance paradigm.*

*Directive:*

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

*Structure of the answer:*

*Introduction:*

*Define briefly what is corporate governance.*

*Body:*

*Discuss who is an independent director – As per section 149 (6) of The Companies Act, 2013, Independent Director means any director other than a managing director or whole-time director or a nominee director.*

*Explain the role of independent directors in general – Independent directors act as a guide to the company. Their roles broadly include improving corporate credibility and governance standards functioning as a watchdog, and playing a vital role in risk management. Independent directors play an active role in various committees set up by company to ensure good governance.*

*Explain thus the Need to have independent directors on the board.*

*Conclusion:*

*Conclude that relation of Independent Directors with the Corporate Governance Principles is crucial for good governance in the corporate world.*

**Introduction:**

An independent director (ID) is defined as a director on a company's Board other than a managing director, whole-time director or a nominee director. They are required to take an autonomous view of the on-goings in a company while overseeing its management.

**Body:**

### Role of Independent Directors:

- The ID is envisaged as a **watchdog on the Board** to ensure good corporate governance.
- SEBI brought in the concept of IDs through clause 49 of the Listing Agreement, 2000, which deals with corporate governance norms for listed companies.
- They act as the **connecting link between the management of the company and its many diverse stakeholders**.
- They are required to play **moderator to the conflicting interests** that arise in these relationships.
- Recent instances such as the **Tata-Mistry spat or the Infosys Board shake-up** show that more needs to be done.
- IDs are designed to act as **trustees of shareholders**, especially minority shareholders.
- They are expected to take an **outsider's view and ensure checks and balances** in areas such as strategy, performance, key appointments, remuneration, etc.

### Significance:

- The presence of Independent directors on the Board of a Company would improve corporate governance.
- Higher corporate governance standards make investors more comfortable.
- Enhanced governance may positively impact credit rating of the company, helping lower its borrowing costs.
- This is important for public companies or companies with a significant public interest.
- IDs would be able to bring an element of objectivity to Board process in the general interests of the company

### Conclusion:

A committee of IDs should meet regularly, and bring to the board instances of violations of law and ethics in corporate affairs. Shareholder activism must improve. Currently, most shareholders are silent spectators to happenings in corporations. The corporation should emerge as a social institution, with the directors having duties and responsibilities towards society, observing not only the letter of the law but also the spirit of ethics.

**What is meant by public interest? What are the principles and procedures to be followed by the civil servants in public interest?(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

***Why this question:***

*The question is straightforward and is about discussing the essence of public interest.*

***Key demand of the question:***

*Explain in detail the importance of public interest to a civil servant and discuss the principles and procedures to be followed by the civil servants in public interest.*

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*Explain what public interest in generic terms is.*

**Body:**

*Welfare of the general public (in contrast to the selfish interest of a person, group, or firm) in which the whole society has a stake and which warrants recognition, promotion, and protection by the government and its agencies.*

*Explain in what way the objective of the Ethical Framework for the government sector explicitly recognizes the role of the government sector in preserving the public interest.*

*Discuss the virtues, rules and principles that civil servants must follow to ensure public interest.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude by reasserting significance and centrality of public interest to civil services.*

**Introduction:**

Public Interest means the welfare of the general public in which the whole society has a stake and which warrants recognition, promotion, and protection by the government and its agencies. Public Interest is anything that affects the rights, health, or finance of the public at large. Public interest is a common concern among citizens in the management and affairs of local, state, and national government.

**Body:**

The principles and procedures to be followed by the civil servants in public interest are:

**Principles:**

- **Constitutional principles:** Civil servants shall perform their official duties in compliance with the Constitution and Civil servants shall ensure **equal treatment of the citizens** and the legal entities when performing official duties.
- **Gandhian principle of Sarvodaya:** upliftment of the weaker section of the society.
- **Code of ethics:** When performing their operations, civil servants shall act exclusively in the public
- **Other ethical principles:** Selfless service, Openness, Accountability. Civil servants shall perform their activities in the most conscientious, direct, the most efficient, timely and methodical manner in the interest of the citizens and the other entities in realizing their rights, duties and

**Procedures:**

- **Code of conduct:** It has mean values of objectivity, impartiality, non-partisanship etc to be followed. When communicating with citizens and other legal entities, the civil servants shall act in a manner that



enables establishment of relations of mutual confidence and cooperation between these entities and the administration.

- **Laws, Rules, Regulations of the land** must be abided by.
- **Procedure laid down by the courts:** in case of absence of laws, the rulings of the court to act as a guide.
- **International Conventions like ICCPR, Child labour conventions etc.** should be followed.

#### **Conclusion:**

Civil servants must be trained to work in public interest because fulfilment of public interest is the obligation of the government under the 'Social Contract'.

**What is meant by Voice conscience? How do you prepare yourself to heed to the voice of conscience? Discuss.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is straightforward and based on the concept of voice of conscience.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the concept and its relevance in one's ethical conduct.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Define what you understand by voice of conscience.*

##### **Body:**

*Voice of conscience corresponds to an inner voice that judges your behavior. Explain Voice of conscience is the source of ethical decision making for many.*

*Discuss in what way you can prepare yourself to heed to the voice of conscience?*

*Pause and think about the dimensions of issue.*

*Practice the power of silence.*

*Meditation and prayer.*

*Free yourself from external influences and selfish interests.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude by suggesting importance of voice of conscience.*

##### **Introduction:**

Conscience is **inner moral sense of a person** which **guides him/her to regulate his behaviour**. It is a **cognitive process that elicits emotion and rational associations** based on an **individual's moral philosophy or value system**. Often Conscience is related to religious text and supreme command to be followed by one's inner self. Conscience comes to play when a person is in moral dilemma and need deep assessment of scenario and his behaviour.

##### **Body:**

Voice of conscience:

It corresponds to an inner voice that judges your behaviour. Voice of conscience is the source of ethical decision making for many.

A person can prepare himself/herself to heed to the voice of conscience by

- Pausing and thinking about the dimensions of issue.
- Practicing the power of silence.
- Meditating and prayer.
- Free yourself from external influences and selfish interests.

Crisis of conscience:

- It is a situation in which it is very difficult to decide what is the right thing to do.
- The term is also used when someone is worrying because they think that they have done something unfair or morally wrong.
- It is a case of ethical dilemma, but often in a more strong sense.
- When there is a crisis of conscience, the individual fear that his action may be against the voice of conscience and hence ethically wrong.

**Conclusion:**

To quote Gandhiji, "There is a higher court than courts of justice and that is the court of conscience. It supersedes all other courts." Thus, the voice of conscience guides a person in treading the moral highway. Conscience is a concept in national and international law, is increasingly conceived of as applying to the world as a whole.

Critically examine the importance of ethics in International relations and elucidate with suitable illustrations.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

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

**Key demand of the question:**

*One must discuss the relevance of ethics in international relations.*

**Directive:**

**Critically examine** – When asked to 'Examine', we have to look into the topic (content words) in detail, inspect it, investigate it and establish the key facts and issues related to the topic in question. While doing so we should explain why these facts and issues are important and their implications. When 'critically' is suffixed or prefixed to a directive, one needs to look at the good and bad of the topic and give a fair judgement.

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*What do you understand by ethics in international relations.*

**Body:**

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

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

*adherence to the human rights -eg- lack of ethics in the international relation has been the cause of wars & genocide many times in history like the first world war.*

*accountability – eg- an irresponsible behavior of north Korea has raised the concerns of the whole world. ethics helps to avoid the “ego clash” & “ideological clash” between two or more nations.*

*eg- the disruption between india & Pakistan relation can be avoided if both take a decision based on ethics.*

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

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

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

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

*globalization has rendered borders, useless. increasing trade balance between developed and underdeveloped countries is the cause of concern. mindless exploitation of these countries’ resources cannot be ignored. it requires a more empathetic view from developed nations.*

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

*eg: Doklam issue between india & china has been solved through cooperation.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with way forward.*

**Introduction:**

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

**Body:**

Importance of ethics in IR:

- **Legitimacy:**

- Ethics does its work in the world by granting and withdrawing legitimacy. History shows that the mitigation and cessation of unjust practices ultimately comes from the assertion of core values.
- The end of slavery began with various revolutions and rebellions—yet the source of its ultimate demise was its loss of moral legitimacy.
- Communism, for the most part, ended in similar fashion. The Soviet Union collapsed when the values that held it together were no longer credible and sustainable. Its legitimacy evaporated.

- **Rights and Responsibilities:**

- Rights are protections and entitlements in relation to corresponding duties and responsibilities.

- There have been many attempts at forging general agreement on the composition of human rights—the best known being the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the United Nations Charter, the Geneva Conventions, and additional international agreement such as the Refugee Convention.
- **Pluralism:**
  - Ideology presents a significant hurdle. Many political ideologies—“isms” and doctrines that are absolute and universal—result in what Hans Morgenthau called “the crusading spirit.”
  - Absolutes and moral abstractions in politics can be problematic for the ethicist. Ideologies like nationalism, Marxism, communism, religious fundamentalism and even Western liberalism in the wrong hands, have been great simplifiers, prone to excesses of political operators who use them to cloak their political interests in the guise of high-minded moral purpose.
- **Peace and Harmony:**
  - Ethics aim at “Peaceful World”, “Respect for All” & “Equality” while forming international organizations, declarations & forums. E.g.: The demand for equality in IMF & UNO shows the demand of adhering to ethics in a way.
- **Solidarity:**
  - Natural disasters and refugee crisis situations require a more compassionate view of the global community. These are not isolated events and rather, a duty of every global citizen to help in the times of crisis.
  - g.- Aid during natural disasters (Nepal earthquake)
- **Fairness:**
  - Fairness addresses normative standards for appropriate contribution, equal regard and just desert.
  - Contemporary methods for thinking through these standards include John Rawls’s “difference principle,” Amartya Sen’s “capabilities approach,” Peter Singer’s “one world,” and Kwame Anthony Appiah’s “cosmopolitanism” just to name a few.
- **Others:**
  - Ethics helps to avoid the “Ego Clash” & “Ideological Clash” between two or more nations.
  - For instance, the disruption between India & Pakistan relation can be avoided if both take a decision based on ethics.

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

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

### **Conclusion:**

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

### **Can public ethics separate from private ethics for a public servant? Analyse with suitable illustrations.(250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is straightforward and based on the concept of public and private ethics.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*Explain in detail the relevance of private and public ethics to the lives of civil servants and in what way the two cannot be separated.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Define what you understand by public ethics and private ethics.*

##### **Body:**

*Briefly explain the principles of public and private ethics.*

*Explain with examples how private ethics diverges from public ethics. While private ethics is largely based on personal beliefs and sense of morality, public ethics is formed on the principles like selflessness, leadership, integrity, objectivity, accountability, transparency, and honesty.*

*One must illustrate with examples as to how while the two remain in synchronization most of the times, there may emerge circumstances where the two can diverge for a civil servant.*

##### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude by suggesting importance of the two in public services.*

##### **Introduction:**

Although related, public and private moralities are not identical. They may come from the same source, but are distinct. This point has been noted in the Western tradition since at least Machiavelli. But its lineage in India is ancient.

##### **Body:**

Public servants play conflicting role due to conflict in private life and public life. Conflict between ethics in both relations may lead to unrest, guilt, dissonance and confusion in the mind of the concerned person.

The public servant needs to cope with several roles altogether. This includes role in private life, role in personal and family sphere, role as a professional, role for job, role towards his / her area of jurisdiction, role towards seniors and society / humanity at large.

The public service role invokes legal and constitutional obligations, which when violated invite legal sanctions and penalties. Thus, a public servant needs to cope with these different roles which many a times conflict with each other.

Most ethical challenges in public life stem from social responsibilities issues or from relationships issues with the news media, a client or employer, colleagues or stakeholders. They usually result from poor relationships, inadequate corporate standards and conflicting obligations in certain situations where the values of a client, employer and society may not easily be reconcilable with a practitioner's own values.

Sometimes laws conflict with individuals morals and values for instance stealing is a crime but a child might be stealing food because he/she is hungry. So internal conflict arises.

For example, in India, the Dharmashastras provide moral codes to regulate the private relations. However, in public relationships, the public servant needs to cope with several roles altogether. This includes – role in private life, role in personal and family sphere, role as a professional, role for job, role towards his / her area of jurisdiction, role towards seniors and society / humanity at large.

### **Conclusion:**

Thus, a public servant needs to cope with these different roles which many a times conflict with each other. The question is – how to survive while playing such conflicting roles. The key to this is “personal integrity”. Personal integrity is simply taking a sincere and ethical stand.

Discuss the various issues associated with Corporate governance in India, also suggest what measures can be taken to overcome these issues.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question is based on the theme of corporate governance.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*One must discuss the significance of corporate ethics, the issues associated with it and way forward to tackle the same.*

### **Directive:**

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

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Explain what do you understand by corporate ethics?*

#### **Body:**

*In recent times various issues regarding corporate governance have been witnessed in India.*

*Issues associated are as followed –*

*Board of directors' appointments in India are still by way of “word of mouth” or fellow board member recommendations. Lack of effective Performance Evaluation of Directors, lack of true Independence of*



*Directors – Independent directors’ appointment is biggest concern in the corporate governance. The independence of promoter appointed independent directors is questionable as it is unlikely that they will stand-up for minority interests against the promoter. Removal of Independent Directors, Accountability to Stakeholders – Various general duties have been imposed on all directors, directors including independent directors have been complacent due to lack of enforcement action, Executive Compensation, Risk Management – As a key aspect of risk management, privacy and data protection is an important governance issue, but it has been always neglected. Suggest what can be done to overcome the issue?*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with way forward.*

**Introduction:**

Corporate governance is the **system of rules, practices and processes by which a firm is directed and controlled**. It includes the rules relating to the power relations between owners, the board of directors, management and the stakeholders such as employees, suppliers, customers as well as the public at large. It essentially involves **balancing the interests of a company’s many stakeholders**, such as **shareholders, management, customers, suppliers, financiers, government and the community**. Ethics is at the core of corporate governance, and management must reflect accountability for their actions on the global community scale.

**Body:**

**The ethical issues with Corporate Governance in India:**

- It is common for friends and family of promoters and management to be appointed as board members.
- In India, founders’ ability to control the affairs of the company has the potential of derailing the entire corporate governance system. Unlike developed economies, in India, identity of the founder and the company is often merged.
- Women director appointed are primarily from family in most of the companies which negates the whole reform.
- Appointed independent directors are questionable as it is unlikely that Independent Directors will stand-up for minority interests against the promoter. In the Tata case, these directors normally toe the promoter’s line.
- An independent director can be easily removed by promoters or majority shareholders. This inherent conflict has a direct impact on independence.
- Data protection is an important governance issue. In this era of digitalisation, a sound understanding of the fundamentals of cyber security must be expected from every director.
- Board’s Approach to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) is often found unsupportive.
- Conflict of Interest – The ICICI Bank Ltd fiasco demonstrates the challenge of managers potentially enriching themselves at the cost of shareholders in the absence of a promoter.

**Measures to improve Corporate Governance in India:**

- For the good corporate governance focus should be shift from independent director to limiting the power of promoters.
- Promote women from diverse background rather than from family as board of director.
- **A well composed Audit Committee** to work as liaison with the management, internal and statutory auditors, reviewing the adequacy of internal control and compliance with significant policies and procedures, reporting to the Board on the key issues.
- Risk is an important component of corporate functioning and governance, which should be clearly acknowledged, analysed for taking appropriate corrective measures. In order to deal with such situation, Board should formulate a mechanism for periodic reviews of internal and external risks.
- **A clear Whistle Blower Policy** whereby the employees may without fear report to the management about unprincipled behaviour, actual or suspected frauds or violation of company's code of conduct. There should be some mechanism for adequate safeguard to personnel against victimization that serves as whistle-blowers.
- Strengthening the power of SEBI, ICAI, and ICSI to handle the corporate failure. As for example in Sahara case, court has to intervene to bring justice.
- CSR projects should be managed with much interest and vigour.
- The board must invest a reasonable amount of time and money in order ensures the goal of data protection is achieved.
- A robust mechanism should be developed to mitigate risk. A better management of risk may avoid Kingfisher like debacle.
- Explicitly approved norms of ethical practices and code of conduct are communicated to all the stakeholders, which should be clearly understood and followed by each member of the organization.
- The objectives of the corporation must be clearly recognized in a long-term corporate strategy including an annual business plan along with achievable and measurable performance targets and milestones.

### Conclusion:

Currently, India accounts **nearly 3% of world GDP and 2.5% of global stock market capitalisation – with 5,000 listed companies and more than 50 companies in the global Fortune list.** Uday Kotak committee recommendations hold importance in growing concerns for corporate governance. The recommendations of the Kotak committee will enhance transparency and effectiveness in the way boards of listed companies function.

Who in your opinion is a good civil servant? one who is a whistle blower or one who tries to find the possible solution from within the system? Justify your stand with examples. Also discuss the challenges in finding a solution from within the system.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

*The question is based on the theme of a 'good civil servant' vis-à-vis whistle blowing aspect.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*One must discuss in detail the aspect of whistle blowing in a civil servants' life and in what way it makes her/him a good civil servant and how she/he has to manage the system to find suitable solutions irrespective of situations.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*In brief explain what makes a good civil servant.*

**Body:**

*Explain the key traits of a good civil servant first, then explain the whistle blowing aspects and the need to balance for solutions to different situations.*

*Such answers are best explained using suitable solutions.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of good civil servants for the system to run more efficiently and effectively.*

**Introduction:**

A good civil servant is one who is **kind, responsive, fair, has sense of duty , objective judgement skills with a hint of rebellion** (They challenge their own ideas and biases, they challenge the way it has “always been done”).

**Body:**

In the course of civil service, an officer is bound to face challenges of various types. One must find innovative solutions to such problems by working around the problems. However, when there are inevitable situations, it becomes necessary to whistleblow, albeit within the system.

**Merits of whistleblowing:**

- **Exposing Unethical Behavior:** When corporations and government agencies step over legal and ethical lines, whistle-blowers can make these practices public knowledge, which can lead to violators being held accountable.
- **Take care of things internally:** Stronger whistleblower protection laws all over the world, such as in the EU and Australia, mean that if you do not listen to and act upon whistleblowing tips internally, people may decide to report externally, for example to the media, and are legally protected if they do so.
- **Reduce losses when misconduct occurs:** Whistleblowing benefits organisations through significant loss savings. Organisations that did not have a whistleblowing system in place

suffered losses that were twice the size compared to those who did have a whistleblowing system.

- **Build trust in your brand:** 50% of the participants responded that building trust was the main benefit of a whistleblowing system. An openness to whistleblowing demonstrates a commitment to high ethical standards and builds trust in the company.
- **Ensure legal compliance:** Having a system in place for whistleblowing benefits organisations by reducing compliance risk.

#### **Demerits of whistleblowing:**

- The world, government, corporates and even society to an extent do not like whistleblowers and some countries go so far as to call them 'traitors'
- The case of Edward Snowden and Julian Assange of Wikileaks proves the point
- Whistleblowers face legal action, criminal charges, social stigma, and termination from any position, office, or job.
- Vindictive tactics to make the individual's work more difficult and/or insignificant, assassination of character, formal reprimand, and difficult court proceedings

#### **Challenges in finding a solution from within the system:**

- Non cooperation of peers
- Inertia of status quo, the lack of incentive to accept change within the system
- Pressure from politicians and other groups.
- Threats of demotion and frequent transfers
- lack of evidence in most of the cases renders his case weak

#### **Conclusion:**

A good civil servant would adhere to the foundational principles and fight against corrupt practices in a pragmatic way as the situation demands.

Discuss the various ethical issues associated with private health institutions in India, also suggest what measures can be taken to overcome these issues. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### ***Why this question:***

*The question is based on the topic of ethical concerns and dilemmas in government and private institutions.*

#### ***Key demand of the question:***

*One must discuss in detail the ethical issues witnessed by the private health sector in country.*

#### ***Directive:***

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

***Structure of the answer:***

***Introduction:***

*Explain what are ethical concerns.*

***Body:***

*Define Health care ethics – it is the application of the core principles of bioethics (autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence, justice) to medical and health care decisions. It is a multidisciplinary lens through which to view complex issues and make recommendations regarding a course of action. Explain that there is a plethora of ethical issues associated with health sector and more so specifically in the private arena.*

*There are numerous ethical challenges clinical leaders, health practitioners and patients face in healthcare. Some examples of common medical ethical issues include: Patient Privacy and Confidentiality, the majority of Indians trust and utilize private health care despite the fact that cost of treatment is significantly higher than in public facilities. Further a large part of their expenditure is out-of-pocket and not accommodated by insurance providers. Finally, the inadequate penetration of insurance only means that access to quality health care is a luxury for a large section of the population etc.*

***Conclusion:***

*Conclude with suggesting solutions to overcome and address these solutions.*

***Introduction:***

In India, the doctors are considered as equivalent to gods (“Vaidyo Narayano Hari”). However, Indian healthcare is struggling with many challenges. Medical profession which was once a respected line of work but today is corrupted at every level, from medical education to medical practice, and in both the private and government sectors.

**Body:**

**Various ethical issues with private health institutions in India:**

- The business of private hospitals is driven by the dynamics of patient acquisition and falls into two broad categories: **consultant-driven and hospital-driven**.
- Within private hospitals, **size matters**. A large private hospital of, say, 500 beds has to maintain a flow of patients, just as a hotel has to avoid losing room nights. So they go in for agreements like those to treat patients covered by the central government health service or the armed forces.
- Yet another category is **hospitals run by religious institutions**. They do not extract a corporate profit or promoter’s share, but the need to have good consultants on your panel who will bring in patients makes all private hospitals the same, up to a point.
- How much a patient ends up paying is partly determined by the hospital’s assessment of what he looks good for. **Whether he has medical insurance or non-resident Indian children** is an important factor.

- A lot of the ills of private hospitals are attributed to **consultants who only care about maximising their earnings**. Newer or unbranded private hospitals seek to rope in consultants with a package. They offer, say, 10 per cent of bed charges, 25 per cent of out-patient diagnostic billing, 15 per cent of in-patient billing and 60 per cent of consulting fees.
- The situation has become so bad that patients today approach the doctor with **mixed feelings – of faith and fear, of hope and hostility**. This leads to a **distorted doctor-patient relationship**, with high chances of exploitation both ways – doctors may **fleece patients** and, if some lacunae are exposed in treatment, **patients or their relatives may blackmail doctors**.
- Such unethical practices may no longer be cause for comment. But there are many reports of doctors actually committing crimes – **distorting medical reports in medico-legal cases, providing false certificates to protect criminals, sexually assaulting their patients, and even trading in human organs**.
- **Sex determination tests** are performed though they are illegal.
- Doctors are known to **prescribe unnecessary diagnostic tests, hazardous drugs and inappropriate surgical procedures**, all for the kickbacks they receive from the healthcare industry
- Against the recommendations of the WHO that the total health expenditure should be 6.5% of the gross national product (GDP), India spends only 4.8% of GDP on health. Further, public health expenditure is just 1.2% of GDP, or barely 25% of the total health expenditure; the rest of the money is paid by patients directly to private doctors and hospitals

#### Way forward:

##### For doctors:

- Follow medical ethics and Hippocratic oath.
- Collectively publicly oppose outside interference – political, bureaucratic or otherwise.
- Make a commitment to rational drug use, referral and evidence-based interventions.
- Shun erring colleagues.
- Refuse to accept any favours from pharmaceutical companies.
- Follow medical ethics and treat poor patients the same as rich ones.
- Refuse to take bribes.

##### Public:

- acting as a watchdog reporting corruption or wrong doing;
- checking unscrupulous elements who blackmail doctors in cases of inadvertent lapses in medical treatment;



- being more responsive to the stress that doctors have to deal with, and
- Running awareness groups to educate people on the necessity of organ donation and to encourage the framing of laws that would empower medical authorities to extract organs of unidentified and unclaimed dead bodies within the stipulated time for organ revival.

#### **For Government:**

- Evolve a transparent system for the allocation of funds, for deciding the location of medical facilities and for the posting of medical personnel; this system must be insulated from political and other interference.
- Have people of integrity conduct prompt enquiries into reports of medical corruption, and take prompt action on the basis of these reports.
- Let doctors know that transgressions will be met with punishment. Medical corruption is not a crime committed in the heat of the moment. It is calculated and based on greed, and the punishment must be severe and deterrent.
- Plug the loopholes in the law on human organ transplants that enable transplant tourism and marriages for the purposes of kidney “donation”. A campaign must be started to dispel myths on cadaveric donations. The transplant programme must include a computerised national database, efficient transportation and a network of state-of-the-art transplantation centres with expert surgeons.
- Reward upright doctors to encourage role models for new entrants in the profession.
- Tackle the problem of doctors shunning government service.
- Support and protect whistleblowers who report medical corruption.
- Form a task force to defend high ethical standards in the medical profession and to fight corruption in public healthcare.

#### **Conclusion:**

Corruption is spreading its tentacles far and wide in the medical system. To restore its noble and distinct status, all sections of society must work together to stamp out the biggest killer in the medical system – corruption.

### **What do you understand by term governance, good governance and ethical governance?(250 words)**

#### **Introduction:**

Governance can be described as the process of decision making and the process by which decisions are implemented. Government is one of the actors in governance apart from interest groups, NGOs and civil society organizations etc. Governance is government in action.

#### **Body:**

**Good governance** is about the processes for making and implementing decisions. It's not about making 'correct' decisions, but about the best possible process for making those decisions.

Good governance share several attributes as being participatory, consensus oriented, accountable, transparent, responsive, effective and efficient, equitable and inclusive and follows the rule of law. It assures that corruption gets minimized, the views of minorities are taken into account and that the voices of the most vulnerable in society are heard in decision-making. It is also responsive to the present and future needs of society.

But the concept of inclusive growth requires amalgamation of ethical perspective in the decision making process.

E.g.: The implementation of Right to Information Act which improved transparency and accountability. It has been highly praised by many UN agencies.

**Ethical governance** denotes administrative measures, procedures and policies that fulfil criteria required for the ethically good or acceptable handling of public affairs, such as in public administration, public health care, education, and social security.

For example government programs and policies related to developmental projects come under the concept of good governance as it aims at inclusive growth and development with proper accountability and transparency system but it becomes ethical governance only when the people displaced due to land acquisition are rehabilitated properly with required livelihood facilities.

#### **Conclusion:**

Governance can be likened to act of ruling, Good governance to the act of serving & ethical governance to letting righteousness work by itself. When all act according to the right laws of the universe there will be no requirement of a ruler & no requirement of punishment & all will be equally responsible partners, in line with Mahatma Gandhi's concept of Swaraj.

**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.

Explain any four generally accepted probity principles that serve to maintain the integrity of the process.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

**Why this question:**

*The question aims to discuss the probity principles that serve to maintain the integrity of the process.*

**Key demand of the question:**

*One must discuss in detail any four principles of probity.*

**Directive:**

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

Define what is probity.

**Body:**

Explain that Probity is the evidence of ethical behaviour in a particular process. The term probity means integrity, uprightness and honesty. For Government employees and agencies, maintaining probity involves more than simply avoiding corrupt or dishonest conduct. It involves applying public sector values such as impartiality, accountability and transparency.

Explain principles –

**Accountability:** It is the obligation to be able to explain or account for the way duties have been performed. Government should have appropriate mechanisms in place to show that they are accountable for their practices and decisions.

**Transparency:** It is important that the process is transparent to the maximum extent possible so that all stakeholders can have confidence in the outcomes.

Transparent, open processes also minimize the opportunity for, and the risk of, fraud and corruption.

**Confidentiality:** As a condition of employment, all public servants are under a general obligation of confidentiality to their employer. All Government advisors, members and any other third party that is privy to commercially sensitive information must provide a formal undertaking to Government that they will keep this information confidential.

**Management of Conflicts of Interest:** A conflict of interest arises where an individual associated with the process is, through their particular associations or circumstances, influenced, or perceived to be influenced, to obtain an unfair advantage for him or herself or another party.

**Conclusion:**

Conclude with significance of probity in general.

**Introduction:**

Probity is “the quality or condition of having strong moral principles, integrity, good character, honesty, decency”. It is the act of adhering to the highest principles and ideals rather than avoiding corrupt or dishonest conduct. It balances service to the community against the self-interest of individuals.

**Body:**

**Probity principles:**

**Accountability** is taking ownership for outcomes (successes or failures) while addressing performance issues fairly and promptly. The ability of citizens to demand accountability and more open government is fundamental to good governance.

Accountability involves three key concepts:

- **Transparency:** citizens have access to information about commitments that the state has made and whether it has met them. **Example:** Right to Information Act.

- **Answerability:** citizens are able to demand that the state justifies its
- **Enforceability:** citizens are able to sanction the state if it fails to meet certain standards.

### **Managing the Conflict of Interest: A**

“conflict of interest” involves a **conflict between the public duty and private interests of a public official**, in which the public official has private-capacity interests which could improperly influence the performance of their official duties and responsibilities. Handling the conflict of interest involves the following:

- **Transparency**
  - Declaring one’s conflict of interest to the concerned authorities is the best way.
  - It helps civil servant to come clean and concerned authorities can decide further.
- **Assure integrity**
  - The concerned authority should be assured of integrity and willingness to serve no matter what the decision is made on the declaration.
- **Maintain objectivity**
  - If given the chance to continue working on that case, work with objectivity.

### **Conclusion:**

According to **Second Administrative Reforms Commission**, apart from the traditional civil service values of efficiency, integrity, accountability and patriotism, it is necessary for civil servants to inculcate and adopt ethical and moral values including probity in public life, respect for human rights and compassion for the downtrodden and commitment to their welfare.

Probity in governance is the antithesis of corruption in public life. Probity is emphasised by the UN Convention against corruption. Probity is the evidence of ethical behaviour in a particular process. For Government employees and agencies, maintaining probity involves more than simply avoiding corrupt or dishonest conduct. It involves applying public sector values such as impartiality, accountability and transparency.

**What are professional codes of ethics? Discuss the relevance of it in public services. (250 words)**

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### ***Why this question:***

*The question is based on the theme of professional code of ethics and its relevance to public services.*

### ***Key demand of the question:***

*One must discuss in detail the significance of professional code of ethics.*

### ***Directive:***

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

**Structure of the answer:**

**Introduction:**

*In brief explain what are ethics.*

**Body:**

*code of ethics and professional conduct outlines the ethical principles that govern decisions and behavior at a company or organization.*

*They give general outlines of how employees should behave, as well as specific guidance for handling issues like harassment, safety, and conflicts of interest.*

*Use suitable examples and justify in what way ethics are significant to the professional aspects even in civil services for that matter.*

**Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance of holding onto professional ethics.*

**Introduction:**

Professional Code of ethics is a written set of rules issued by an organization to its workforces and management to help them conduct their actions in accordance with its primary values and ethical standards based on the nature of job or profession.

**Body:**

**Relevance of Code of ethics:**

- Code of ethics defines the minimum requirements for conduct, and behavioural expectations instead of specific activities.
- Example: if an organization is committed to protecting the environment and “being green”, the Code of Ethics will state that there is an expectation for any employee faced with a problem, to choose the most “green” solution.
- When faced with ethical dilemmas or debatable situations, what’s articulated in the Code of Ethics can help guide decision making.
- Sets benchmark for appropriate behaviour. Provides a framework for reference in case discretionary powers are to be used.
- Code of Ethics regulates the judgment of the organisation and is publicly available.
- The relevance is more in present society where values and ethics are on decline either seemingly because of greater awareness or in reality
- Code of ethics acts as a moral compass during decision making.
- Huge Prevalence of corruption and Lack of probity in public life can be reduced.
- Officials taking prejudiced decisions or favouring a ideology while discharging official duties will affect the socio-economic justice as envisaged by our Constitution.
- It increases the accountability and transparency of the officers and politicians in their work.

- Helps to curb the politician- bureaucrat nexus which leads to favouritism, crony-capitalism, conflicts of interest.

#### **Way forward:**

- The 2nd Administrative Reforms Commission (ARC) had proposed the inclusion of a **Public Service Code in the draft Public Service Bill, 2007.**
- The commission outlines the desirable qualities that make the civil services efficient. They include impartiality, integrity, dedication to public service, political neutrality, adherence to the highest standards of probity, objectivity, empathy for the weaker section of the public.
- It highlighted that efforts made by individuals in leadership positions in organization to inculcate these values in within the organization can make a difference.
- The Public Service code would facilitate the employees to discharge their official duties with competence and accountability, care and diligence, honesty , without discrimination and in accordance with law
- The statutory backing through Civil Services bill to the Code of Ethics would guide the civil servants towards behaviours, choices and actions that benefit the community.

#### **Conclusion:**

In a democracy, all persons holding authority derive it from the people. All public functionaries are trustees of the people. Thus, a code of ethics must be present, however the legal enforcement is a topic which must be well deliberated before implementation.

Discuss the core principles of citizens charter. How should an organisation formulate citizen's charter? explain. (250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

#### **Why this question:**

*The question is straightforward and is based on the concept of citizen charter.*

#### **Key demand of the question:**

*One must discuss in detail the relevance and significance of citizen's charter.*

#### **Directive:**

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

#### **Structure of the answer:**

##### **Introduction:**

*Define citizen's charter, explain what is it.*

##### **Body:**

*Explain the basic objectives of citizen's charter.*

*Discuss what aspects are essential for an organization to be covered in its citizen's charter.*

*Explain the do's and don'ts that the organization must consider while drafting its charter.*

*Provide for a roadmap that the organization should follow while drafting its charter.*

*Explain with possible examples.*

##### **Conclusion:**



*Conclude with significance of citizen charter in ethical governance and good governance of the country.*

**Introduction:**

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

**Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances in Government of India (DARPG)** initiated the task of coordinating, formulating and operationalising Citizen's Charters

**Body:**

The **core principles** of a Citizen's Charter in India are:

- Vision and Mission Statement
- Details of business transacted by the organization
- Details of clients
- Details of services provided to each client group
- Details of grievance redress mechanism and how to access it
- Expectations from the clients.

An organization must take care of the following to make citizen's charter a success:

- Creating guarantees and redressal policies.
- Building service standards into your performance management system.
- Publicizing and comparing performance against the standards.
- Creating awards for meeting tough customer service standards.
- Involving customers in the creation of guarantees, standards, redress policies, complaint systems, and customer service agreements: It is prudent not to assume what the customer wants. Customer surveys are useful here, but face-to-face contact with customers is even more
- Educate customers about your services, so they will have realistic notions of what is possible and will understand their own responsibilities: Often services won't work unless customers uphold their end of the deal. **Example:** tax agencies can't send speedy refunds if taxpayers don't fill out their returns completely and accurately.
- Keep pressure on from outside the organization to create meaningful guarantees, standards, redress policies and complaint systems:  
Most organizations won't be able to accomplish both setting meaningful standards and fulfilling the

- Create an outside review process to approve guarantees, standards, redress policies, complaint systems, and the performance measurement processes associated with them.
- Publicize your standards, guarantees, redress policies, complaint systems, and results: If people don't know about these policies, they will have far less effect than they should. **Example:** the U.S. Postal Service has publicized its first-class-on-time delivery standards (three days within the continental S., one day locally) and reported quarterly on its performance.
- Involve frontline employees in creating standards and other tools – and in figuring out how to meet them – to help them buy in.

### Conclusion:

Thus, it is imperative to develop citizen's charter which is **citizen-centric, people-participative** for them to be successful. This will ensure that the guidelines are set for better service delivery by the government.

Utilization of public funds in a country must obey to the principles of transparency and efficiency. do you agree? Give your opinion with suitable examples.(250 words)

*Ethics by Lexicon publications*

### **Why this question:**

*The question is aimed at analyzing the aspects of utilization of public funds in a country.*

### **Key demand of the question:**

*One must discuss in detail the aspects of transparency and accountability associated with utilization of public funds of the country.*

### **Structure of the answer:**

#### **Introduction:**

*Discuss the importance of public funds.*

#### **Body:**

*Explain what is meant by public funds – Public funds includes all the money that belongs to the public and is held by the government as a custodian and not an owner. Its utilization must adhere to the principles of transparency and efficiency.*

*Discuss the significance of Transparency and efficiency as tools for monitoring and supervising distribution of public fund.*

*Explain various mechanisms through which it can be done – Public Fund Management System, Auditing agencies – CAG, Budgeting – Outcome based budgeting, zero base budgeting, Participation and transparency – Social Auditing and Citizen Charters, Financial Prudence – FRBM act etc.*

#### **Conclusion:**

*Conclude with significance accountability and transparency in utilization of public funds.*

#### **Introduction:**

'Public money ought to be touched with the most scrupulous conscientiousness of honour. It is not the produce of riches only, but of the hard earnings of labour and poverty.' – Thomas Paine

#### **Body:**

Four principles underpin trust in the public finances:

- **Transparency** –accurate records that show where money is raised and spent.
- **Assurance** – figures and processes are checked by independent experts.
- **Accountability** –decision makers are clearly identified and subject to strict rules and review of performance and outcomes.
- **Objectivity** – policies are based on accurate information and rigorous analysis

The question of utilization of public funds has different aspects.

- The first aspect relates to efficiency.
- The second aspect concerns the manner of fund utilization.
- The third aspect relates to the outputs and outcomes which result from the fund use.
- The fourth aspect is the source of funds.
- Finally, any fund utilization or expenditure has to meet the audit requirements.

#### **Need to obey principles of transparency and efficiency:**

- It is vital to **uphold the 'social contract'**. Citizens must be confident that they are protected by the law and that public institutions and servants will act in accordance with it.
- Public institutions with operational independence from political control are more likely to be **trusted to act in the public interest**.
- A **well informed population** is far more likely to be confident about investing for the future. This means both providing appropriate information in ways that are accessible and easy to understand, and educating citizens as well as inviting them to participate in decision making.
- Effective public financial management requires that decision makers, citizens and other stakeholders, are able to **'follow the money'** to see how taxes were raised, why decisions to spend it were made, how the money was actually spent and what was bought.
- Where government plans and activities are measured against expected outputs and outcomes, citizens and other stakeholders will be able to judge the performance of government. This in turn provides the basis for feedback and continuous improvement mechanisms.
- For the public to believe that public officials will do the right thing, a range of controls to promote integrity and ethical behaviour and to tackle fraud and corruption are required.
- Most importantly, the public must believe that individuals will be held responsible for their actions, no matter who they are.
- A **climate for investment** is created when investors believe a state is stable, well run and that political and fiscal risks will be managed effectively.

#### **Conclusion:**

It is important for citizens to trust that the government will act in their interest, if they are to invest their own private resources and so create economic activity and employment.

**“Public service must be more than doing a job efficiently and honestly. It must be a complete dedication to the people and to the nation.” Explain.(250 words)**

**Introduction:**

Efficiency and honesty in a public servant are sine qua non for an efficient and sustainable administration. The concept of public handling over the responsibilities to sustain the society to the state itself is enough to maintain such values. The public servants are the repositories of public conscience, they secure their livelihoods and control the macro and micro economy. However these traits alone are not enough.

**Body:**

**Importance of Dedication in public service:**

- Dedication means quality of involving oneself completely or applying one's attention, time to a particular activity, cause or a person.
- Dedication in public service is required as civil servants in India, a developing country need to perform the regular administrative and also play an important role in socio-economic development of the nation.
- In carrying out these activities he may be faced with several obstructions like social opposition against any programme which is against their deep rooted belief, lack of support from political executive.
- Schemes for promoting family planning are generally opposed in rural as they consider contraceptives as taboos here dedication is required to fulfil the goal of healthy society. One's employees and superiors may be involved in corruption. These obstacles can only be overcome when one has perseverance and dedication.
- Public service is not a goal but journey which may be non-exciting and unwanted at times, only a dedicated civil servant can remain motivated in such situations.
- Dedication would make sense of duty an end in itself, which will be independent of assignment.

**Conclusion:**

Dedication ensures that the sense of duty becomes an end in itself. It is not dependent upon the nature of assignment given to a civil servant. Dedication to public service is very important, especially in countries like India. There will be many internal and external factors which will force you to deviate you from your goal. Under such condition it is your dedication towards the constitution as well as towards the policies of government which will help you in accomplishing your duty.

INSIGHTSIAS